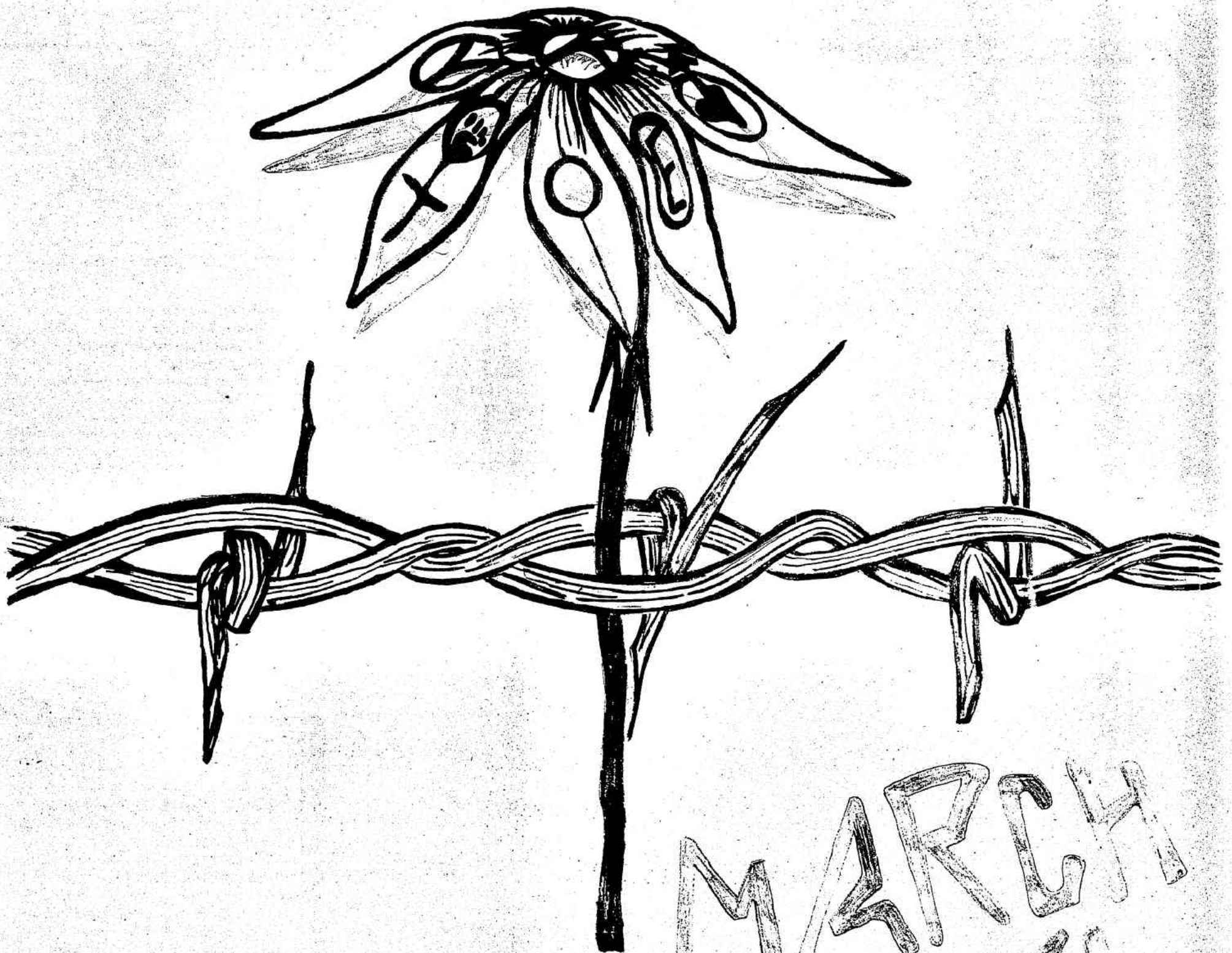


WORONI

WORONI Vol. 37 No.3
25 March 1985

Registered by Australia Post
Publication No. NBH 3619



MARCH
31

PEACE RALLY

What is that distinguishes a 20th Century publication (e.g. Woroni) from one of Gutenberg's era? Is it the publication regulations? No, they haven't changed a bit in centuries. Is it the Editors? No, they're still underpaid wretches who lurk in their windowless hovel. What is it? It's the TECHNOLOGY. (That is, a typewriter.) And, according to the auspices of Murphy's Law, it broke down just when it shouldn't have - when this damn paper is due to go off to the printers. Thus, we make apologies to CARPA, R.E.McArthur, Nick Chapman and Kendall Odgers for not having time enough to get their articles typeset.

Bob thinks he can screw the students yet again by re-introducing tertiary fees. This is not an April Fools' joke a bit early, the government seriously thinks it can do it. They will, too, unless there is positive indication from YOU that they can't (see page 4 for details). The first step was taken the other night by 350 students who tore themselves away from their hectic schedules at the bar to attend an S.A. meeting in which the introduction of fees was unanimously condemned. Not a bad start, but there's a long way to go.

It's also a long way to Toad, now that the bar's closed, the dealers have gone home and the sun's itching to pop up from behind Mt Ainslie.

THE END

P.S.

APPLICATIONS FOR

T.E.A.S.

MUST BE IN BY

MARCH 29th



Woroni Editors:
Arts and Entertainment - Judith Ion
Sport, Halls & Colleges - Fiona Matthews
Advertising - Rozalyn Daniell
Photography - Ian Redpath
General Contributions - David Barz
David Morris

Published by Lesley Ward for the ANU Students' Association.

Printed by the Queanbeyan Age

SUBMISSIONS:

Nothing racist, sexist or defamatory and nothing which makes each member of our editorial collective throw up will be published.

Layout Assistance:

Robert McArthur
Student Disarmament Group
Philip Kellow
Richard Batten
Mick Gow
Tony B.
Ken boy
KeanW

Dear Editors,

First I would like to say that on the whole I found Woroni 2 to be quite entertaining and informative. However, I would like to respond to some of the comments made in your "Ed Toial" on page 2. I do not understand how you can assert that my article on the role of Woroni appeared on false pretences. I am not an editor and so did not write an editorial - I wrote an article outlining one reader's view of what a student paper can, and should, do. Nor was its appearance the result of any fraudulent behaviour on my part - I did not try to 'trick you' into printing it and, in fact, I invited you to contact me before publication if it caused any problems (see your other editorial on page 2 of Woroni 2). Perhaps some further explanation would help clarify your assertion.

The failure of your 'Ed Toial' to adequately address the issues raised in my article is also cause for concern. To simply label such an article as 'heavy-weight' and 'full of trendy jargon' and therefore not worthy of a response is a very unproductive approach to take. Surely it would be better to encourage discussion (and so promote a greater understanding) of Woroni's role and production processes. (i.e. how it's put together).

I would also dispute your claim that the contents of Woroni are sufficient to indicate your policies and goals. It is important that there is some explanation of WHY the paper has the form and content that it does. For example, it is not enough to simply refuse to publish sexist material - there must also be some discussion of how such material helps perpetuate sexism and why it must be countered. These are not issues which can be explained simply by the form of Woroni - they do call for special comment.

I look forward to your response.
Philip Kellow

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ACCOMMODATION

Work continues on the Community Tenancy Scheme. We have written a submission to the Scheme outlining the particular problems facing students (e.g. not being eligible for public housing) and applying for assistance. We are currently looking for suitable houses - help would be appreciated. The submission is being made jointly by the ANU SA, CCAE SA and Reid TAFE Union.

Depressingly, funding for this Scheme and for the Community Housing Expansion Project is under threat. We are urging the Minister for Territories to give the whole new sector of community housing high priority.

Halls, colleges and of course the few University houses and flats for students are all full and/or overflowing, with waiting lists in many cases. Self-catering facilities are most in demand.

If you need accommodation, make sure you are registered with the Student Accommodation Office. Try putting an ad in Woroni, too.

BIRRIGAI CAMP

Over the weekend of 9-10 March I attended a camp for new students from overseas, held by the Canberra Council for Overseas Students at Birrigai, near Tidbinbilla. This provided an excellent opportunity to meet many students, to publicise and answer questions on the Students' Association and to learn from overseas students about their backgrounds and experience.

ORIENTATION NIGHT

On 6 March an orientation evening for ANU overseas students was held at Burton and Garran Hall. I was one of four speakers, and I took part in discussions later in the evening.

Many of the students I met at this event and at the Birrigai camp have kept in touch - coming to the SA office for information, help and advice. I'm very glad that these contacts have been made.

NSW EDUCATION ACTION NETWORK

I attended both the recent NSWEAN Committee meetings - at CCAE in February and at the NSWEAN office in Sydney over the weekend of 16-17 March. Both were extremely worthwhile, providing much-needed information on how other campuses are coping with issues and problems.

The second meeting dealt particularly with the issues of accommodation, childcare, appeals, student representation and

TERTIARY TUITION FEES

The NSW Education Action Network is co-ordinating a state-wide campaign against tuition fees. A public meeting

was held in Sydney on Friday 22nd March. An extremely comprehensive and useful action kit (press clippings, petitions, draft letters to MPs, and much more) was prepared by the NSWEAN coordinator and sent to every campus in the state.

Our own actions include the extremely successful SA meeting held on Wednesday 20 March which passed (without dissent) a motion condemning moves to reintroduce tertiary fees, and the increases in fees for overseas students. 350 students attended this meeting - the largest seen on campus for several years.

We are holding a rally against fees in the Union Court on

MONDAY 25th MARCH
at 1pm

Speakers will include John Langmore. Please attend and show your support.

We've been writing for Woroni (see Jane Connor's article in this issue) producing leaflets, posters and petitions, working with the TAFEs, CCAE and the secondary colleges, talking to the press. We're planning a rally at Parliament House for Thursday 18th April - students from ACT campuses and from Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong and Melbourne will be there.

If you'd like to help, or have ideas for the campaign, let us know at the SA Office. See you at the rally!



OTHER THINGS:

- Lots more - an SRC meeting was held on 7 March. We heard reports on
 - Orientation Week
 - Housing Conference
 - Tuition fees
 - Overseas students' orientation evening
 - Computing
 - Woroni
 - Other publications

We also organised training sessions for people to learn about how the SA office works. These sessions are open to all - leave a note if you'd like to know more.

University Council met in mid-March - a full agenda, and the apartheid swimming pool proposal was deferred (again) until the next meeting.

No time to write more. Don't forget to buy an SA Calendar from the office or our lunchtime stall in the refectory.

Lesley Ward
President
Students' Association

letters...

pro-arm(ageddon)

Dear Editor(s),

I wish to express my disgust at the naivety of people in support of nuclear disarmament. Advocating the disarmament of nuclear weapons in the hope of creating world peace is a simple answer to a complex problem. Like most simple answers, it is an emotional response, not a well reasoned argument.

To begin with, wars are NOT caused by the mere existence of weapons. Wars ARE caused by tensions which develop between the governments of nations. Weapons do not operate, do not cause destruction of their own accord. It is the human element: the ambitions of a nation's leaders that is important. The ambition of the government of the Soviet Union is clear.

"One cannot overemphasize that there is no disagreement among Soviet leaders - political or military, young or old - on ultimate goals. They view world development in terms of the continuing struggle between two opposing social and political systems. They believe in the inevitable, if long-forthcoming, victory of Soviet-style socialism."

- Arkady Shevchenko

TIME magazine Feb. 18, 1985, p.19

with this being the situation, the "threat" to Western civilization is some-

thing far more powerful than the physical existence of weapons. It is human ambition.

Members of the Nuclear Disarmament Movement see nuclear weapons as a life threatening force and react emotionally in calling for their obliteration. They are too hasty in their judgement and hence fail to recognise the true threat. As a result they see no need for a defence system. They would prefer the insecurity of unilateral disarmament to that of accepting the existence of nuclear weapons.

Let me point out that I am NOT supporting nuclear weapons BECAUSE I think they have intrinsic value. They do not. They are the product of an ever progressing field of study called science. Once invented they are here to stay (until another weapon takes their place). They are, at present, an important part of a defence system that enables Western nations to defend their right of self-determination. Why? Because they help to "take the profit out of war" by creating a balance of power between East and West.

The ambition of the Soviet Union, to impose its social and political system on the rest of the world, is an immoral one. To accept nuclear weapons as part of a necessary defence system is to recognize reality.

Lloyd Bennell

doc feelgood

Dear Editors,

I wish to express my disgust and anger that in the last edition of Woroni three pages of the paper were devoted to treating the use of so-called "soft" drugs in a flippant dismissive manner. Indeed the final page of the paper could be regarded as a positive inducement to young people to use these and other drugs.

As a former president of a students' union [in Dublin, eds.], I have perhaps the naive view that the students union should act as a defence organisation for its members and for those young people in society who are often powerless to take on the very powerful forces who control their lives. I believe that the duty of a student's union is to strive to create a decent society, in which access to a decent well-funded education system is guaranteed and which provides certain basic requirements of housing, employment and health services to all its people.

When dealing with the question of drugs and their availability in society two questions must be raised: first, which section of society suffers from drug abuse; and secondly, who gains from the supply of these [drugs]? Invariably it is young people, many of whom are on the edge of our society, who succumb. It is also the young people who are used for the purpose of pushing these drugs. If I may look to my home city, Dublin, for a moment, ten year old children are used to push heroin. Twelve year old children die from overdoses whilst in certain areas of Dublin 13 percent of people between the ages of 12-16 feed a habit (E.S.R.I. Report May 1984).

The 'drug-barons', who keep their hands clean, use the process of this traff-

icking in death to finance their beautiful homes, their villas, yachts and foreign holidays.

In light of my view of the role of a students' union as a defence organisation and in light of the consequences of drug abuse I believe that it is my imperative that the students' union should be to the forefront in opposing the spread of the drug-culture and at a minimum prevent such flagrant advertising as appeared in the last edition of Woroni.

In order to pre-empt some of my critics, let me state clearly that I am fully aware of the differences, both as a physical and psychological level, between the 'soft' drugs and heroin. I am also aware of the fact that contact with the former does not necessarily lead to the latter. I am also fully aware of the destructive role played by the medical profession in the prescribing of 'legal' drugs which lead to physiological dependence. However I believe that the issue of drug abuse is of sufficient gravity that all attempts to prevent its spread must be made.

Yours sincerely,

Eamon O'Brien,
Post-Graduate student, RSPHysS

Dear Doctor Feelgood,

I am feeling down, depressed and generally wasted. Am I smoking too much or too little? Can you suggest a remedy to my depression.

(Signed) Worried

P.S. Could you please tell me what is better for my throat - bongs, or joints.

MONDAY 25th MARCH 1985

THE GREAT FEES DEBATE STRIKES AGAIN

It becomes more obvious, day by day, that the possible reintroduction of fees for students at universities and Colleges of Advanced Education would be at short odds with any discerning bookie. A Labor government attempting desperately to reduce the Budget deficit is looking hungrily towards the possible savings of such a move as the unsure post-secondary sector grapples for a response. The Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee has seated itself uneasily on the fence (though the pro-fees position of our own Peter Karmel is no secret), the academic unions (with some notable individual dissidents) are generally against and the student movement is in disarray. This does not mean that we are powerless however, or that we will be inactive over the coming months of Cabinet and Caucus deliberations as some anti-fees work has already been done and much more has been planned. But it does mean that you have a greater responsibility than ever to make up your own mind before it's too late to join in. In the last edition of Woroni, Glen Phillips from the Liberal Society called for a vigorous debate on the subject. Written in response to that call, the following article looks briefly at some of the arguments presented last time in the transcript of the maiden speech of David Watson, Liberal Member for Forde (Qld) then considers some of the other, more important, aspects of the issue.

I am generously assuming that Mr Watson's speech has been rather severely edited. It is interesting primarily for its unusually hardline adherence to the concept of "user-pays" education. The user pays argument is many faceted but based firmly on the belief that education is a private matter whose benefits are privately reaped. American free marketeer Milton Friedman has written,

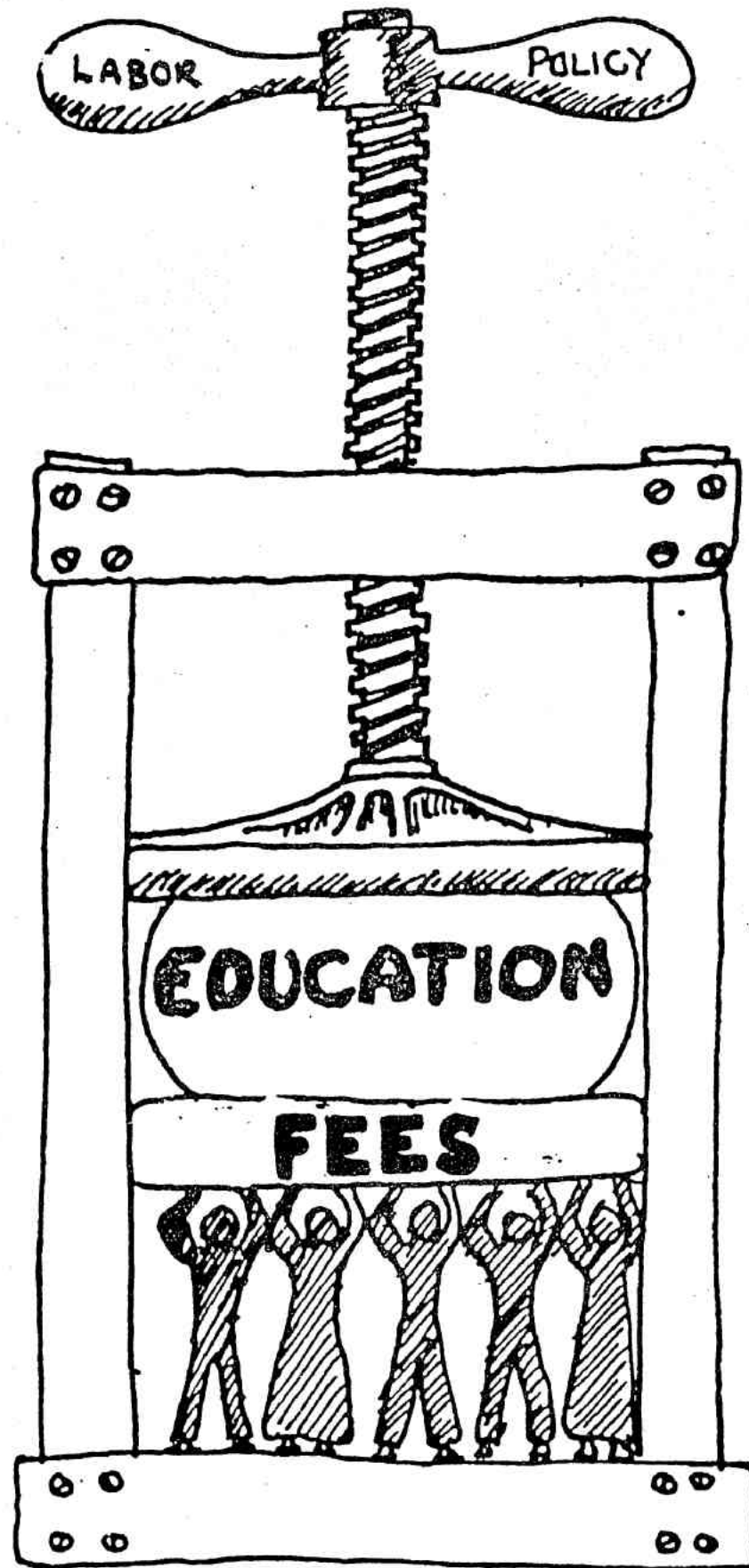
"Vocational and professional schooling . . . is a form of investment in human capital *precisely analogous* to investment in machinery, buildings or other forms of non-human capital. Its *function is to raise the economic productivity of the human being*. If it does so, *the individual is rewarded* . . ." (1) (my emphasis)

This is the sort of position that Watson is putting forward and whose basis I'll examine later. Firstly, some of his illustrative points:

A] "even if the desirability of providing everyone with the opportunity of obtaining some minimum level of education is accepted, the case for government rather than market provision of any particular commodity does not follow . . . Government policies currently allow private markets to supply the demand for food . . ."

This may not have been the best analogy. According to Fair Deal, a recent publication of the Australian Consumers Association and the Australian Federation of Consumer Organisations,

"Food law in Australia is . . . notoriously unresponsive to new products and technologies, and to new evidence on the safety of existing products or of food additives. Australia has been embarrassed internationally by its failure to ratify a single



international food standard recommended by the Codex Alimentarius Commission." (2)

Where there is not adequate government control, the majority of the people are left unprotected, in food or in education. In a society where the level of education is closely related to the power one can exercise, those who start from behind can be guaranteed no other safety from the hazards of the free market. Nor should the questions of who is allowed to learn what, or what is judged useful knowledge be in the hands of individual entrepreneurs. Only when a government holds the purse strings will the opinions of the entire electorate have a chance of being heard.

Fees provide Incentives?

Firstly, a point not raised by Watson, it has been said that students who pay fees will value their education more. There is no evidence for this. Instead, university and college retention rates have improved markedly in the past few years, possibly because of increased pressure for jobs. Even the Australian commented (6/3/85) that students "do not need the added burden of fees to keep them at their books."

Secondly, Watson claims that it is hardly surprising that students "complain of poor teaching" in government funded institutions where "the incentive to teach well is greatly reduced". Again, there is

no evidence that the incentive to be a good teacher is financial. This argument could only possibly apply anyway where students subscribed to the salaries of individual academics whilst the Government is certainly only considering a centralised collection system. In any case, the idea that paying large sums of money would give greater control to us, the consumers of education is very superficial. How much control do we have over the precise form of our soap powders? Our only option is to buy another, virtually identical, brand. Only if (to continue the market analogy) we were given a chance to actually shape the product through increased say on course content and assessment would we have consumer control. And even that doesn't imply that we would all have an equal say just as consumers don't have equal power in the free market. Would those with more money be able to buy more influence in education, just as they do now? (And were academics that wonderful before fees were abolished?)

Extreme free marketeers reside on the (not so far) edges of the user pays debate. Mainstream argument takes two major forms although they are closely connected. They start from the same apparently reasonable premise: that it is unfair to make those who do not undertake higher education subsidise those who do. The variant you'll find most often in the Liberal Party is the laissez-faire one: if you can't afford it you can't have it, except that if you want it badly enough you'll be prepared to work like a slave and go into hock to get it. The Labor Party - John Dawkins, Peter Walsh-line is that the abolition-of-fees-was-meant-to-flood-the-place-with-the-poor-and-didn't-so - let's-stop-pretending-and-stop-the-bourgeoisie-from-ripping-off-the-working-classes. (This concern, you may or may not have noticed, is held in very few other instances.)

The laissez-faire argument as we saw with Watson sees education as capital investment (and thus overlooks the complex private and social benefits). Graduates, even those who lived in poverty while studying, are likely to earn more than non-graduates. In this sense their education was an investment and probably, they say, worth it. However, differences have diminished while graduate unemployment has increased. Moreover, can we assume that higher graduate earnings are necessarily due to education or do they also result from factors like socio-economic origin? People from privileged backgrounds are over represented in higher education and therefore bump the averages up.

There are also different types of graduates. Free marketeers generally have a very elite conception of students as future self-employed professionals (e.g. doctors and lawyers) who will have full command over their labour power and who will reap the full benefits. Many of us, increasingly, will end up as workers instead. This is often because we've taken liberal arts courses. But under the free market education would become skewed exclusively to vocational ends and to the needs of business, industry and commerce. Students would be much less likely to go into debt in order to take courses not leading directly to jobs. This of course would not bother people

with a purely economic view on education. But even if social benefits are less clear cut this does not mean that they don't exist. Society as a whole benefits from the presence of trained dentists, dancers, mechanics, musicians, physicians and philosophers. Cultural skills and knowledge may be unquantifiable, they might not be wholly private, but should they be further downgraded than they are already?

Most people agree that most tertiary graduates are relatively privileged. The dispute arises over the best way to redress the balance. A rough redistribution at the point of entry into a university or CAE is a silly way to do it. Simon Marginson one-time researcher for the Australian Union of Students, wrote in 1980,

"Social justice demands that higher income earners, including graduates, should contribute a greater share of public revenue than they do at present. However, not all graduates will earn high incomes and some non-graduates will. To anticipate the need for income redistribution at the point of entry into post-secondary education, through tuition charges or through loans rather than adequate grants, is to ignore the influence of social background on the capacity to earn higher incomes, and to discriminate against the poorer student who has the least capacity to pay and thus provide a barrier to access."(3)

Though there are other points I'd like to make. I'll just say lastly that if students are expected to pay fees, the individual's capacity will dictate to and limit educational choice. This cuts right across the Government's stated commitment to equality of opportunity.

And speaking of the government... (enter stage right, several skulking prominent members of the Centre-Left)...

When the Whitlam Government abolished fees in the early 1970s, it was hoped that

"anyone qualified and seeking entry to tertiary education would not be excluded for financial reasons."

This philosophy still informs ALP policy, and is still dear to many in the Party. Others however are starting to say that the dream has failed because the class background of students has remained essentially middle-class. Therefore, they say, the imposition of fees will affect very few people who couldn't afford them anyway, and there will be some scholarships for the poor. But, firstly, as the *Australian* said (6/3/85) "... the data on the social composition of the student population is equivocal...."

ALP pro-fees speakers quote from the studies of Don Anderson, particularly from his book *Access to Privilege* (1983) which concluded generally that those from higher socio-economic backgrounds had been constantly over-represented in post-school education since 1950. But they ignore some of the warnings in the book itself — one which says that the weaknesses in the studies could have led to an overstatement of the 'no change' case and another which states explicitly that no analysis can

"permit the conclusion that the removal of fees did not enable poor students to enrol who otherwise would have been deterred".

— Furthermore, a 1979 Macquarie University study found that 40 percent of students would either defer or not enrol if fees were introduced.

A 1980 research study of 800 students at Monash University found that 70 percent would change their enrolment status if fees of \$1500 or above were levied — the impact was greater on women than men; and potentially devastating on low income families.

— 1981 surveys by student union research officers at Sydney and Macquarie Universities and at NSWIT corroborate findings that students from working class backgrounds and women students would be most affected. The Sydney University survey found that 60 percent of students would defer or not enrol if fees between \$1000 and \$1500 were introduced.

— Professor David Beswick of the Centre for the Study of Higher Education at Melbourne University pointed out recently that "the majority of Australian university students were first generation participants. This contradicted the commonly held view that the universities and colleges represented "places of great privilege which were being protected." And Susan Ryan has recently argued against fees in a paper to Caucus on the basis of other studies showing the adverse effect of fees on female, country and older students (many of whom were originally unable to come to university or college in the 1950s and 1960s because of fees).

So an argument concerning the class composition of students is not a simple one. And in claiming otherwise, Senator Walsh is also ignoring many other factors which stop the disadvantaged from coming to universities and colleges. These include

— the economic downturn in the years following the abolition of fees, the inflation and unemployment which led many school leavers into the workforce and onto the dole queues. The prospect of making sacrifices, completing a course and being unable to secure employment discouraged many people from disadvantaged backgrounds from entering higher education.

— this has been compounded by the continual erosion of the real level of TEAS at the same time as the gap between the dole and TEAS has widened.



So during the time that fees have been abolished there have been massive obstacles and disincentives placed in front of the disadvantaged. It should also be noted that it's only been 10 years since abolition which is hardly enough time for changes in expectations and attitudes (particularly in those families traditionally excluded) to show. So if the 'average

taxpayer' is to be represented in greater numbers in universities and colleges, a whole series of substantial measures is needed. Free tuition is essential, so is greater accessibility and an increase in the level of TEAS; flexible enrolment procedures, the provision of better funding to government schools in poorer areas, the further development of relevant curricula in school as well as the provision of bridging courses.

Senator Walsh's concern for the 'average taxpayer' does not extend to such measures. His use of the 'equity' argument in isolation and offering the reintroduction of fees as a solution will only ensure that only the privileged will have continued access to education.

Means tested fees are superficially more attractive. But any proposals so far have depended on using a means testing scheme similar to that of TEAS. Ask any student about the inadequacy of the TEAS scheme whose inability to identify many of those in greater need is notorious and well-documented. TEAS operates on the assumption that supposed parental capacity to pay is equivalent to willingness to pay. At the same time it has been open to being ripped off by the wealthy. These problems have been admitted by the Department of Education. The reintroduction of fees at the levels suggested by the Department of Finance would be the thin edge of the wedge. A report prepared recently at La Trobe University points out,

"As with overseas students, the government would be likely to introduce fees at a fairly low level, thus establishing the machinery for fee collection, and at a later date increase them on a differential basis to levels where they are recovering a large proportion of costs. This methodology would also be used in respect of a means test. It would be likely that a 'fairly generous' means test would be applied in the first instance, but there can never be any guarantees that the cut off or threshold level (for those who do not have to pay fees) would be lowered, at least in real terms."

In a nutshell (and I am very aware of not having covered many areas, such as the undesirability of scholarships) the fees proposal is nothing but a socially disastrous economic measure which would do nothing to solve the educational problems identified by either the left or the right. In addition it makes an absolute mockery of the government's previous commitments — to International Year of Youth, to the Participation and Equity Programme, and to Affirmative Action.

It is our duty to ourselves, to those who were excluded in the past and to those facing exclusion in the future to fight tuition fees tooth and nail.

Prepared by Jane Connors for Left Alliance with assistance from La Trobe University SRC, Peter Summers, Gayle Tierney, NSWLAN and Simon Marginson.



WOMEN WORKERS STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

The ACTU has recently launched a campaign to increase the wages of women workers. In 1972 the Conciliation and Arbitration Commission stated the principle of 'equal pay for equal work' which was gradually implemented over the ensuing two years to total wages within the economy. Now the ACT has a new claim of 'comparable worth' wages in the belief that women in discriminated positions such as nursing, are discriminated against in terms of pay compared to men in semi-skilled work such as ambulance drivers or workers in male dominated unions such as the Metalworkers Union (AMFSU) which benefit greatly from over award payments.

Whatever its merits, this ACTU initiative faces strong opposition from diverse groups such as the Confederation of Australian Industry to the mass media which focus on the economic costs of such a move. In the Editorial of February 27, 'The Australian' said:

"The campaign on equal pay for women is just another example of the ACTU's irresponsibility and disregard for the jobs of Australian workers . . . the ACTU cannot go pursuing its extravagant agenda without inflicting serious damage to the economy."

Dr Dorothy Broom of the Women's Studies Program at ANU believes this economic approach is too narrow and refers instead to the substantial hidden costs and unrecognized contributions which are occurring under the present arrangements. Amongst these, Dr Broom mentioned the significance of the contributions that women workers make to the financial well-being of their households (in particular, the fact that women's earnings are extremely important on the 'margin'), the costs of the 'feminisation of poverty' especially to single mothers and their children and the costs to men of the unrelenting responsibility of being the breadwinners in often dead-end jobs. Dorothy Broom summed up by saying, that as "... a matter of justice, it [fairer earnings for women] needs to be redressed."

One interesting aspect that Dr Broom pointed out in reference to commentaries on the economic ramifications such as that of the editorial in 'The Australian' is how the distribution of wealth is seen to happen at only one level i.e. between working men and working women. In this way; Dr Broom commented on the "... importance of a class analysis as well as a feminist analysis."

"It is an effort to split working men from working women . . . the way it's been formulated is that of a distribution between men and women of a given class; there is no threat to middle-class men if nurses get equal pay with firefighters."

Indeed Dr Broom considers the whole concept of "comparable worth" as being slightly mad. In her opinion, its value lies in bridging the wage inequality between the sexes, which is more a case of lessening the gap between the 'haves and have-nots'.

"What is a nurse worth? It seems, bizarre to me to assume that a nurse is worth less than a vice-chancellor or a doctor . . . A patient will say that a nurse is worth 20 doctors."

Why then are women in skilled and highly responsible jobs such as nurses paid so badly.

For an understanding of the obstacles facing women workers, it is instructive to look at the nature and history of a body such as the Nurses Union (RANF). Early in its history, the RANF was actually run by the doctors (medicine being a male preserve at that time) and up to last year most state branches of the RANF had a "no-strike" clause in their constitutions. This was part of a "Florence Nightingale" syndrome, that is, nurses had a moral obligation not to strike and were expected to work for low pay. Nursing is a tough job. It takes three years of hard training combined with full-time work before a trainee becomes a qualified sister. The work involves both responsibility and dirty or back-breaking tasks. Anyone who has seen a nurse turn over a 15 stone patient for a back scrub knows the truth of that statement.

Ironically the RANF has potentially explosive industrial muscle yet since the lifting of the "no-strike" clause, it has shown remarkable restraint despite disagreements with hospital administrations, government health policies (or lack of them) and the 'old guard' elements within the union itself.

Dorothy Broom refers to such barriers as being a matter of 'structural discrimination'. When asked whether there were conspiracies of conservative elements involved in keeping women's groups downtrodden, Dr Broom laughed and said "... that nothing that organised is necessary."

"People don't have to get together over brandy and port at the Melbourne Club to hatch schemes. You don't have to resort to that explanation. It is a matter of structural instruments, the way that laws are enforced or the way discrimination is institutionalized."

Nevertheless Dr Broom does think there is hope for the future; that real changes have occurred post-war and that initiatives such as the ACTU's push for 'comparable worth' wages and the Women's Studies Program at ANU itself are indicative of better things to come.

"The Women's Movement is active in every sphere of contemporary life . . . it's not to be told it's not to be buffalood . . . it will achieve [equality] how it chooses."

Tony B.

Thanks To Dr. Broom

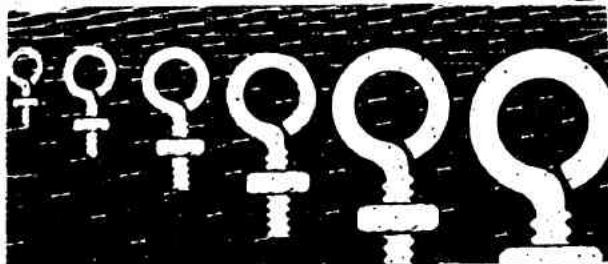
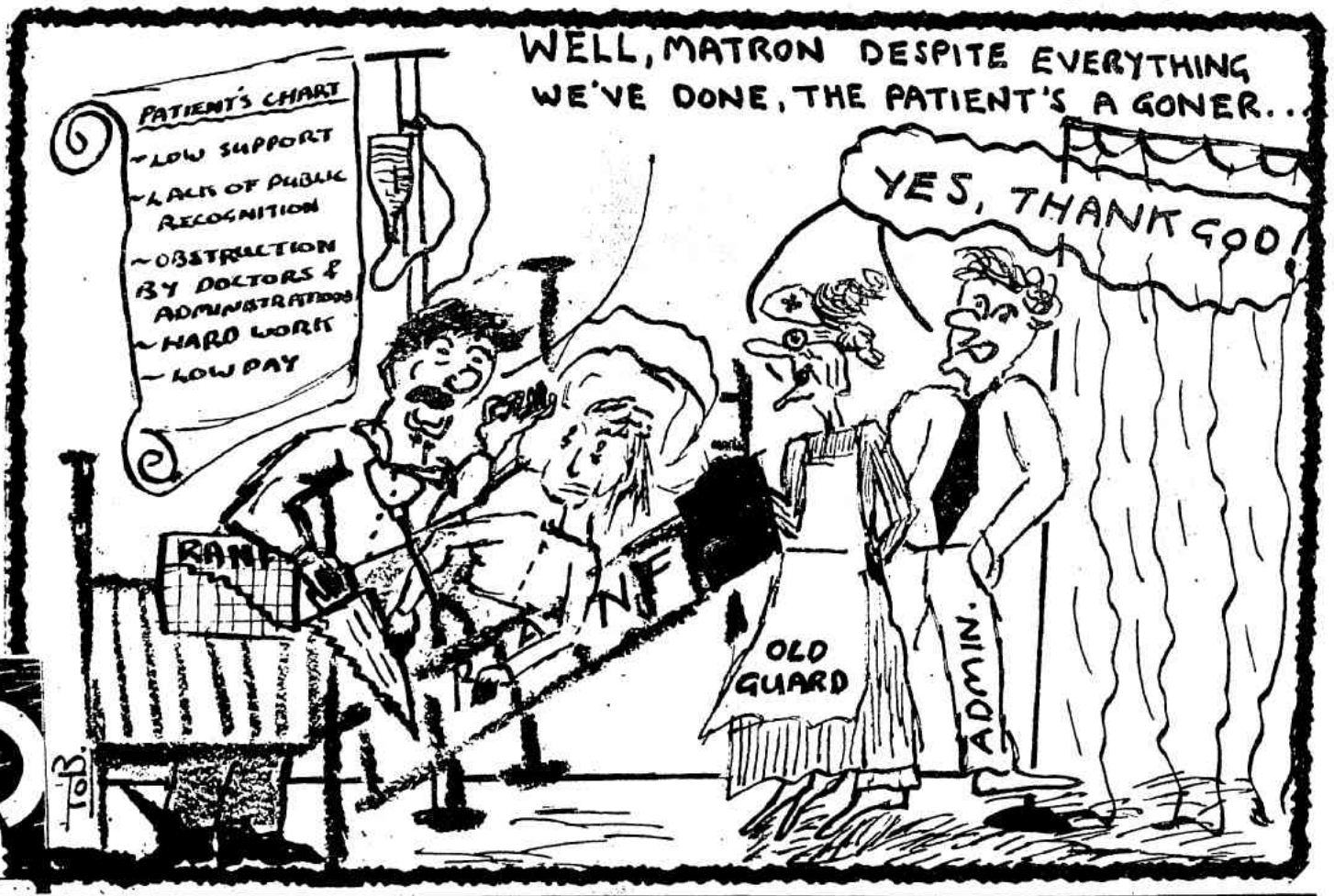


EQUAL PAY
EQUAL WORTH



WOMEN'S UNIONS....

A TERMINAL CASE?



RATIONALISATION COLLECTIVE

During 1983 strange seditious bits of paper began to appear around the campus.(1) These strange seditious bits of paper were of particular interest because they were written by the Nameless Deity of the ANU 'Library', whom noone thought could, concerning the alleged 'Collection Rationalisation' of the ANU Library. Most people didn't read them since most of the population can't.(2)

Interestingly, perhaps because of the abovementioned condition (i.e. Illiteracy) most of the intelligent population ignored the bits of paper until around the summer vacation when they suddenly discovered they couldn't borrow any books because they weren't there. (3)

It was only then they discovered the Dastardly Successful Plot. Unfortunately because of its success they were all thrown out of university and never seen again.(4)

It is up to we who remain to expose this dastardly effort and to bring the Miscreants to Justice, or just to admire them.

Basically the Dastardly Successful Plot (DSP) came into being for a variety of reasons:

- The Library staff were really really bored with fiddling around making helpful creeling noises
- All their (the Library lot's) best friends from around the place were coming to visit for the Chrissie Hols and all the books etc. had been eaten by the Classics' department, so what were they to do.
- They were really sick of all the un-speakable 2nd years, who, as soon as they passed first year became horribly arrogant, especially honours students who, since they had gained 'Library Privileges' (6) had become insufferable.
- And what was the point of having over a million books if one couldn't annoy people with them?

Out of these complaints the Dastardly Successful Plot (DSP) for making people Aggravated & Generally Livid (AGL) was formed.

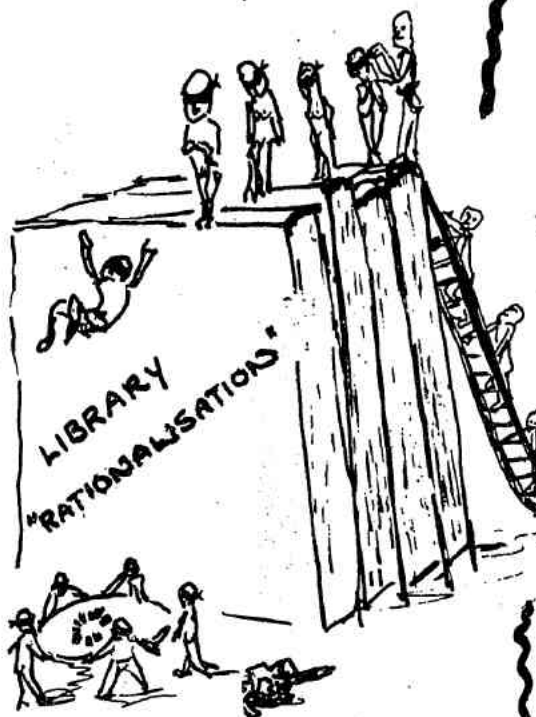
What the preparation for the DSP for AGL (7) boiled down to was:

1. The issuing of some Toilet paper with LIBRARY INFO written on in in lurid green/red colours (8)
2. Copies of above to be found at readers' advisers' desks' to frighten off the persistent.
3. The secret distillation of the more obscure publications for consumption during the campaign period (in a back-room)

The campaign was effective

2nd year/honours students would stumble shaking into various libraries to find books unavailable, when their subtheses etc were due the following day/week, and catalogues in disarray. (9)

All the Jolly DSP for AGL members had a wonderful time singing jolly songs while slinging the books out the back door into cars, parking them at points between libraries and vaguely shoving books into whatever receptacle happened to be convenient. (11)



Their coup de grace was masterly. They issued a delicately blue lump of toilet paper 'Bookmark' with some of the locations on it for the first years to show how wonderful they were being. All the 2nd + etc. bonked out totally, the librarians/DSP for AGL's had a wonderful time (12) and they annoyed a lot of people.

The moral of this tale is to

- a) read all of one's toilet paper.
- b) go somewhere else i.e. Latrobe etc.
- c) always distrust pseudo arts political organisations with silly names unless the initials are S.A.

by NAN

1. This in fact is nothing new since strange seditious bits of paper have been doing that around here since the ANU opened. It is an occupational hazard and Melbourneites etc. continuously mutter wonderingly about our toilet paper fixtures and get themselves transferred back to Latrobe etc. awfully quickly (great isn't it?)
2. They give it up at the end of first year and do much better
3. Since they can't read, the books wouldn't have been much use., but the Skill (& Marks) lie in pretending to understand what's in the books. The system is based on the 'Emperor's New Clothes' philosophy. There in lies the DSP's effectiveness.
4. actually they went to LaTrobe etc.
5. Otherwise known as the '23rd conference of library technicolors in tertiary institutions held annually'
6. Like not paying 10c a cup for the coffee the classics lot didn't eat
7. Aggravation & General Lividity
8. To ensure that even the semilliterate wouldn't touch it with a 10 ft pole
9. or in more so than us all
10. No-one not even themselves could find any
11. Clue to the effect of whatever they were drinking. Fortunately most of the receptacles were libraries although the garbage,
12. Although any physical improvement was negated by the effect of distilled book - still available for 10c a cup.



"EDUCATE, AGITATE,

An Introduction to the Fabian Society

The Fabians had their roots in Britain as early as 1883 when they were known as "The Fellowship of the New Life". They became 'Fabians', or the Fabian Society, at a meeting in 1884. Taking the name from the Roman general Quintus Fabius, known as the Cunctator from his strategy of delaying until the right moment, the main thrust of his attack.

The symbol of the tortoise reflects this attitude in conjunction with the slogan, 'When I strike I strike hard', which has been adopted as the motto of the Society.

The views of the Fabians have long been associated with names as influential as G.B. Shaw, the Webbs, Graham Wallis, H.G. Wells, and later R.H. Towner and Leonard Woolf. These were the original Fabians who began the tradition which is still cited in Fabian literature today. The tradition being one of 'Achieving social progress through research and education' Although it had its roots from a time

more than a century ago (and from a place more than 10,000 miles away) the Fabian Society in Australia is still as valid a forum for constructive discussion and debate today, as it was at its conception.

Gough Whitlam adopted a Fabian approach the day he entered Parliament, a tradition carried on by Bill Hayden, Bob Hawke, John Bannon and John Cain.

This year the ANU Fabian Society will present various guest speakers at meetings, and promote debate on current issues. Topics such as the state of ANZUS, Taxation and other questions to do with equity will be focused on as issues of current debate.

Regular meetings will be held and members will receive notification of meetings well in advance.

The Annual General Meeting of the ANU Fabian Society will be held on Tuesday 25th March in the Board Room at 6.30. Wine and cheese will be provided free.

ORGANISE"

DOLLY'S take away food



CIVIC ☆ WODEN ☆ BELCONNEN

8 PM - 2 AM WEEKDAYS

9 PM - 4:30 AM WEEKENDS

BELCONNEN OPEN WED. - SAT.

DR THATCHER'S CASTOR OIL IS GOOD NEWS FOR SOME

But Bad for Most



Footnote: 1. Hume, writing in the 18th century, presumably meant to include women as well in this quote.

Some special reason is needed for it to be in order to present an analysis of the affairs of a second class European power like the UK as a subject to interest an Australian audience. My reason is this: the phenomenon of Thatcherism has implications for all large democracies, and implications which should cause concern to all those who are concerned for the future of those democracies.

Since her election as leader Margaret Thatcher has subverted the Tory Party. She has retained its structure, and an appearance of continuity, while in fact transforming its ideology and replacing its key personnel. She has maintained, and even increased the popularity of her party while presiding over an almost unprecedented period of national decline. The rise of Thatcherism is a remarkable story, yet it has been deeply misunderstood. Most commentators have made the mistake of looking for an ideology or value-system to provide it with its driving force.

Machiavelli claimed that someone rises to power when they meet an opportunity to which they are suited. This is certainly true of Thatcherism. The opportunity has been provided by the fragmentation of the opposition into two roughly equal blocks (in electoral terms). Thatcherism should not be over-estimated. It has had an easy task, because this fragmentation left a vacuum for it to fill. The situation is akin to the period of conservative domination which followed the collapse of the British Liberal party in the 1920s. The present electoral system is heavily biased in favour of the largest party, and has greatly exaggerated Thatcher's support because the opposition is split in two. Thatcher's share of the vote fell slightly between '79 and '83, despite the large increase in her number of parliamentary seats.

It is the analysis of Thatcherite ideology that is really interesting. What has filled this political vacuum turns out to be, politically, as much of a void as the space it moved to fill. Thatcherism is not conservatism. No government could be less concerned with preservation and the avoidance of rash experiments. At an early stage in its rule it seemed that Thatcherism might be monetarism, but this was not the case. Milton Friedman has denied that their policies ever merited the title. Thatcher's economic strategy has turned out to be the traditional policy of deflating the economy. This has controlled inflation, but no-one ever denied that it would. What was denied, and what has proved false, was the mystic link between low inflation and economic growth. Having reduced inflation at the cost of three and a half million unemployed Thatcher is left with the policy of relaxing controls to allow a recovery to resume, and then tightening them again when inflation starts to rise.

St Anselm told the little boy who teased a bird on a string that he imitated the devil himself.

I have heard recently that Thatcher desires a 'return to Victorian values'. The Victorian age was the age of hypocrisy. Its values were only possible because they were generally flouted. The personal cost of this was documented by Lytton Strachey in his 'Eminent Victorians'. In public life foreign writers remarked constantly on the ability of British governments to act in the most unprincipled manner and a cloak of morality. The most infamous example of this is the Opium Wars, fought in high principled defence of British free trade (in opium!). There are many things about the Victorian period that we should admire, but not its values.



Even if a return to Victorian values were desirable it is impossible. The philosopher Bernard Williams has remarked that even if history moves with no particular purpose it moves in only one direction. Any call for a return to the past is really a disguised call for change, and it is indeed apparent that its present government is the most revolutionary Britain has had for years.

In view of this, perhaps Thatcherism is all about radical capitalism. Perhaps it is an attempt to shift the control of economic resources out of the hands of the state and into the hands of everyday people in the style of the American libertarian right. But this is not what is going on. Despite all pretence to the contrary, the beneficiaries of policies such as 'privatisation' are the banks and other financial institutions. The shift over which Thatcher presides is from statism to oligopoly and oligarchy, disguised by a deliberate confusion between free-market and monopoly capitalism.

The twin causes of this shift in economic power are the influence with the present government of the benefiting institutions, and the fact that the arguments of the libertarian (although these are actually irrelevant) allow the pretence that the change will usher in a bright new future.

There is a cult of personality around Thatcher herself. This is largely a matter of her rhetoric. She has locked herself into a series of games with language that allow her to give emotively effective responses to most issues. The most important of these centres around words and phrases like 'resolution', 'unbending', 'no alternative', 'gritting our teeth'. The purely rhetorical significance of much of what she says is evident in the famously absurd quotation from St Francis of Assisi which followed

her election: 'Where there is discord let us bring harmony', a sentiment to which no government could in fact be more opposed than her own. The same tendency was apparent in her infamous comment that the memorial service for the dead of the Falklands war should have been more celebratory. Religion, like every other ideology or sentiment she catches hold of is the mere tool of a moment.

It has become increasingly obvious over the last few years that Thatcherism is not an ideology at all, merely a pragmatic bandwagon. In so far as there is any connection between what is said and does it is only that the rhetoric dictates the policy. Thatcherism ignores any issue which cannot be presented in the simple terms of conflict and absolute right and wrong. This has resulted in its ignoring the increasingly urgent problems of the third world. It has also meant that Britain, unlike any other European country has sided with the

USA in refusing to contemplate the huge Bretton Woods style restructuring of the world's financial arrangements that becomes more urgent every day. Better to concentrate on the miners' strike where a simple public victory is available. From a domestic point of view the most worrying sight is the government's oscillation between hoping that an ordinary recovery is on the way, and, when it is rhetorically more appropriate, extolling the post-industrial future. In the meantime we have neither the policies to bring on the one nor to prepare for the other. In so far as Thatcherism has an answer to unemployment it is to claim to be 'rolling back the frontiers of the state'. This removes the responsibility for unemployment from the state. This removes the responsibility for unemployment from the government's shoulders, and ensures that the minimal electoral damage is sustained.

The policy of the present British government can be summed up in the phrase of the great philosopher David Hume: '... how complete must be his victory, who remains always, with all mankind, on the offensive and has himself no fixed station or abiding city which he is ever, on any occasion, obliged to defend.' Thatcherism reveals in an extreme form the underlying nature of the great western political parties. The identity of these parties consists in the continuity of their organisation not in any continuity of beliefs. Scraps of ideology and policy are taken up and discarded in a continual search for electoral advantage. Thatcherism has taken this one stage further, discovering that a little rhetoric will stand in for a great deal of policy. It is the rejection of this attitude, and an insistence on having policies and ideological commitments, that is the greatest weakness of the British Labour party. Until recently a similar weakness has afflicted the Australian Labor Party. Thatcherism has no such weakness. It carries the attitude I have described to its highest peak yet. It is the politics of a magpie, a miscellaneous hoard of shiny acts and utterances. Ideologically it is a nothing.



Peace Issues

PEACE

Peace is more than just arms control negotiations (even nuclear disarmament), or an end to apartheid in South Africa or civil war in El Salvador and Kampuchea, or the release of dissidents like Nelson Mandela and Andrei Sakharov, or an end to Soviet occupation of Afghanistan — peace is more than any or all of these.

Peace is not something that just concerns (or more often does not concern) nations. Peace can and should be a dominant principle in our relations with others and with ourselves, as individuals. Often violence and totalitarianism which concerns us on the geo-political level, is perpetuated by us in the way in which we deal with people in our daily lives and with ourselves.

There are 'conflicts' within groups of friends, and inner 'conflicts'. Competition (another form of conflict) occurs between different classes and groups within society, between different races and religious creeds.

These are simple ways in which 'peace' and 'war' (conflict) enter into us personally. There are other ways. We may oppose totalitarianism as violence, but do we perpetuate the structures of repression in our lives? Perhaps in our relationships with friends, younger brothers and sisters, or our pets.

At the Peace Rally, we should be thinking not just about Peace as a geo-political concern, but also about Peace, as a personal and interpersonal matter.

Two people may appear to be in total disagreement, however if they resort to violence as a means of settling their dispute, they make a fundamental agreement — that violence is a legitimate way of settling the injury or dispute. However if one refuses to make the agreement of violence, even if provoked, and does not show fear or resentment, then the attacker can be made to feel startled and uncertain.

The strategy of this non-violent appeal is to replace anger, fear, hatred, indignation, vanity, greed, cruelty, pride, scorn, contempt, disgust, bigotry and hardness with feelings that are to do with unity, sympathy, security and goodwill. The basis of negative emotion is uprooted.



THE NEW ZEALAND ISSUE

Since Mr Lange and his Labour government were elected last year, New Zealand, to the annoyance of the US, has pursued a policy of banning all nuclear powered and nuclear armed ships from its ports. The US Government has claimed that this policy is incompatible with New Zealand's obligations to the ANZUS alliance, and that ANZUS is now, in effect, inoperative.

In reply to the New Zealand action, the US has put a ban on American intelligence being passed on to New Zealand, and while the US has not imposed trade sanctions, the head of the US Congressional Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Stephen Solarz, has stated that "What will happen over time is that a variety of decisions the US now makes which have an incidental impact on New Zealand would be made in ways that are less favourable to New Zealand than they would otherwise be."

The presence of nuclear powered or armed ships in New Zealand waters is not necessary to the ANZUS alliance or any other strategy. It has very little to do with security of the region, but a lot to do with the projection of US power through the general buildup and display of nuclear arms. This, and because it fears that New Zealand's stand will be taken as an encouraging example by other no-nuclear fighters, is the reason for the US reaction.

Mr Hawke and the Australian government have tried to maintain a neutral position in the affair, and to preserve good relations with both sides. But the result has been that instead of supporting, its neighbour, Australia, is serving US interests and endorsing Reagan's aggressive bullying stance towards New Zealand.

The Australian government's position is shameful because it supports actions which interfere with New Zealand's sovereign rights, it is against Australia's own self interest, because any nuclear presence in the South Pacific can only increase the region's security, and it runs contrary to Hawke's election commitment to support campaigns for a nuclear freee and for a nuclear-free independent Pacific

DETERRENCE

The massive accumulation of nuclear weapons by the military forces of the world has traditionally been justified on the grounds that they make the country possessing them safer by deterring attack. The end result of nuclear aggression would be the destruction of the aggressor as well as the victim. According to this view, no rational person would ever initiate a nuclear war and the world is as safe a place to live in as if there were no nuclear weapons. Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD), as a reasonable way of making the world a safer place to live, has successfully been sold to a large part of the population of the Western world. The idea of deterrence is the public justification for the arms race, but a look at the weapons involved and the policies regarding their use shows that the weapon and policy-makers don't believe in deterrence.

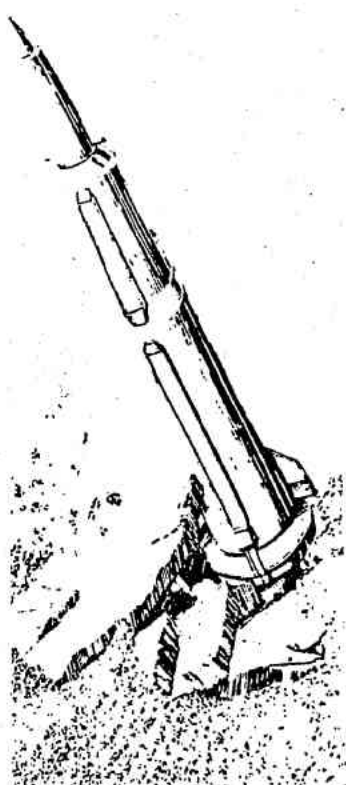
The two superpowers have between them over 39,000 nuclear warheads. Considering that most of these weapons are far more "efficient" than the ones dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, — why are there so many, and why is the massive build up continuing and accelerating? Surely for deterrence to be effective it is only necessary to have the capacity to destroy the "enemy" once, not many times over.

The MX missile — aka 'PEACEKEEPER' will eventually be accurate enough to detonate within about 30 metres of its target. Obviously such accuracy is not necessary to destroy a city with a nuclear weapon. 'PEACEKEEPER' is designed to be a first-strike weapon, used to destroy enemy missiles before they are launched. Such a weapon is not designed to deter a nuclear war, but to "win" one. 'PEACEKEEPER'S' role is to minimize retaliation if the US initiates a nuclear war.

The Soviet Union is following the US in developing first strike weapons. This will result in an extremely unstable situation in which each side may be concerned that if they don't initiate a war they will come out worse. This is a complete contradiction of deterrence but appears to be the path that both sides are actively pursuing.

It is NATO policy to use nuclear weapons in Europe if a conventional war is going badly. The Reagan Administration also believes it to be possible to win a nuclear war with only about 100 million immediate deaths in the US.

Deterrence is basically a myth propagated by people who do not believe in it, and are preparing to fight, not avoid, the final war.



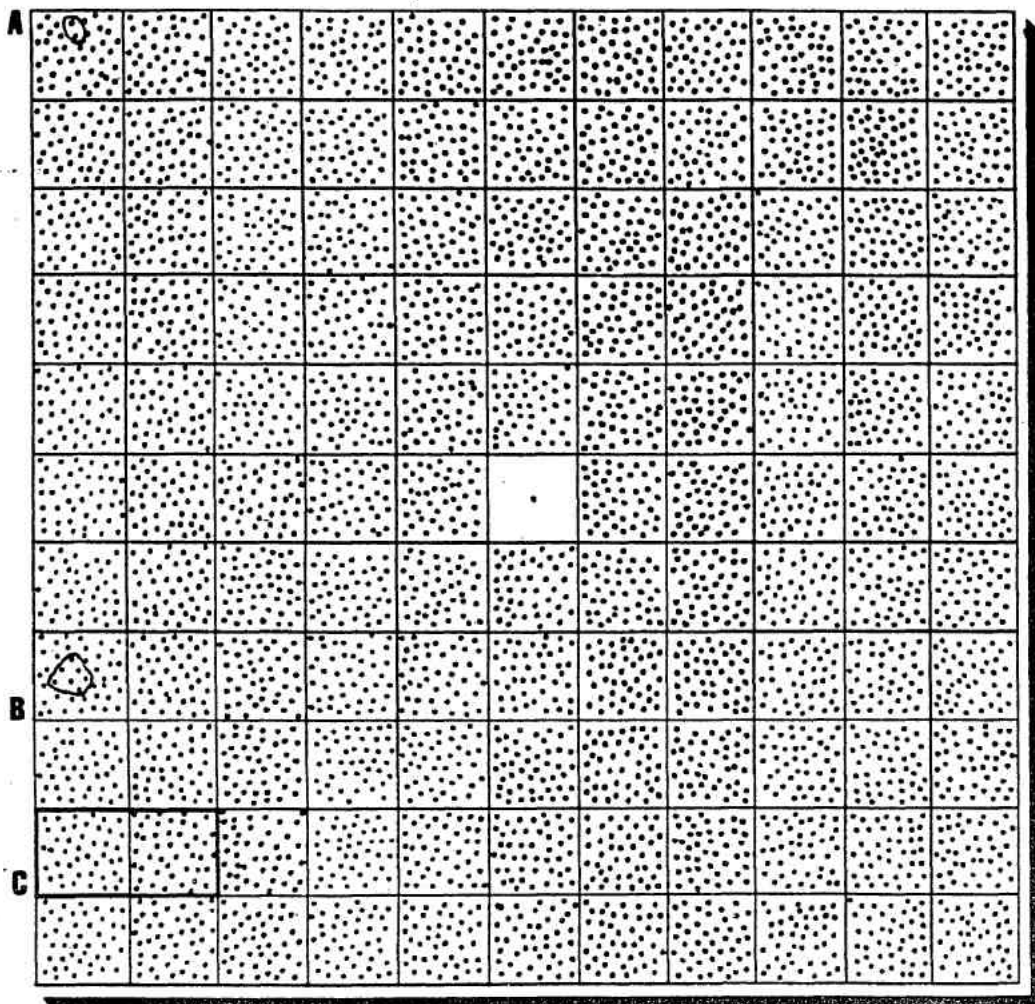
WHAT WE CAN DO

The government relies on our support or passive acceptance of its policies and actions to keep it in power. Thus, the non-acceptance of these policies, the growing public awareness and the voicing of public concern is something it cannot ignore.

If you are concerned about the New Zealand issue you can help by —

- talking about it with friends and family and in community groups
- becoming involved in peace rallies, protests, group activities towards peace.
- deliberately buying New Zealand products
- writing and expressing your concern to newspapers, to the Australian government and to the New Zealand government.

THE SUPERPOWERS DON'T THINK WE HAVE ENOUGH.



JUDGE FOR YOURSELF

The dot in the centre represents the destructive force of all the firepower used during the entire six years of World War II.

Three million tons of TNT. Three megatons.

The other dots portray the firepower of the world's nuclear arsenals. 16,000 megatons. More than 5,000 World War II.

Do you think that is enough?

The top lefthand circle (circle A) is the firepower of just one US submarine. Think of it: twice the firepower used in World War II aboard a single submarine.

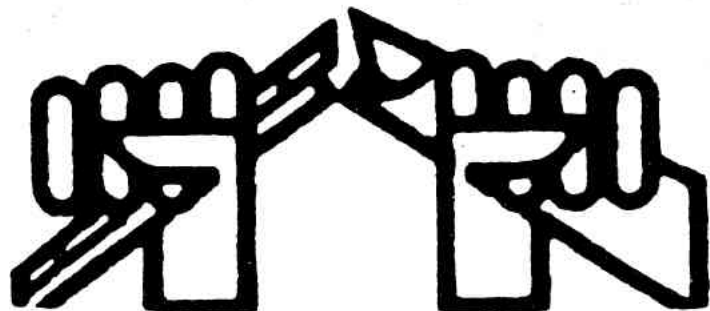
The US has 19 such subs, plus 15 others with even greater firepower.

The Pentagon doesn't think it has enough. The Pentagon wants more. Like the new Trident submarine. Its firepower is portrayed by the lower lefthand circle (circle B). About seven World War II.

The total megatonage on US submarines is 297. The USSR has an estimated total of 853 megatons of firepower on its submarines. A total for the two superpowers of over 1000 megatons—ONE BILLION tons of TNT equivalent. That's well over three hundred times the total destructive firepower released in World War II, and that's just on the submarines!

Just two squares (labelled C) on this chart (more than 250 megatons) represent enough firepower to destroy all the large — and medium-sized cities in the entire world.

Do you think that is enough?



"STAR WARS" — THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE

President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) — popularly known as "Star Wars" — is a clear violation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty of 1972, the most important US-USSR arms control agreement. The Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty specifically binds each party not to undertake the development testing or deployment of technology which could be used as an ABM system or a component of such a system, whether it is sea-based, air-based, mobile-land-based, or space-based. The \$30 billion SDI is devoted to developing a system which could be used to intercept and destroy ballistic missiles.

In a test on June 10th 1984, an unarmed US Minuteman III ICBM (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile) was successfully intercepted and destroyed by a non-explosive missile launched by the US from Kuajelein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. An anti-satellite (ASAT) rocket, launched from an F15 fighter, was tested in January 1984. Despite the controversy surrounding SDI, research and testing programs are ongoing and expanding.

Among scientists in the US there is grave doubt about the possibility of developing an actual ABM system. Simon Ramo, one of the developers of the ballistic missile, has said, "We don't know how to do it."

If an ABM system were developed, there are available many 'potential counters' such as decoys or 'space mines,' says Arms Control Expert and Physicist Sidney Drell of Stanford University. These counter-measures are both simpler and much cheaper than the "space-based ABM system they would render ineffective.

Additionally the deployment of an ABM system by either superpower would dangerously destabilize the global strategic situation, pushing the world much closer to nuclear holocaust. An operative ABM system would add an illusory shield to states who already possess the nuclear sword.

The consideration that one side might have, or could have in the near future, a functional defense against nuclear attack would understandably cause the other side to lose faith in any remaining deterrence, and perhaps cause that power to take pre-emptive action.

Almost all arms control experts in the West have pointed to the destabilizing implications of Reagan's "Star Wars" plan. Dr Julie Dahlitz, an Australian peace researcher working in Britain, said at the ANU last year that outer space weapons are "the greatest threat to world peace. The only purpose for developing outer space anti-ballistic missile weapons is to serve as part of a nuclear first strike capability. Those who advocate defensive use of such weapons are practising delusion."

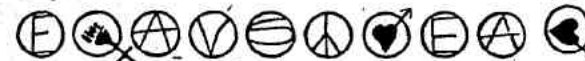
The Reagan Administration has consistently maintained that SDI does not violate the 1972 ABM Treaty because it is merely a research project — a \$30 billion research program into an illegal weapons system, but still a research project. However, developing and testing of components of the ABM system is already being carried out, US space shuttles have been performing an escalating number of secret military missions.

Washington has in the past stated that a USSR phased-array radar installation at Krasnoyorsk in Siberia is in violation of the ABM Treaty — which, if US claims about it are true, it is. Both the US and the USSR have been reluctant to push protestations against violations of the treaty, since both are violating it. With world opinion strongly in favour of arms control negotiations and agreements, it would be bad press for both the Kremlin and the White House to be seen as disregarding the most important nuclear arms control agreements, the very foundation of SALT I.

Australia is playing and will play an important role in the implementation of any space-based ABM system. Nurrungar and Woomera tracking facilities have been used on most US space missions. Research into aspects of ABM systems is being carried out on the ANU campus. The US facilities at Pine Gap, Nurrungar, Northwest Cape and Woomera are ideally located for the tracking and telemetry functions vital to any space-based ABM Communications system, and they are well-situated in relation to the USSR. This is not to mention the hospitality Australia shows to visiting nucleararmed US warships, which will be used in the testing of ABM components (like the missile launched from the Marshall Islands) and could eventually carry ABM weapon systems.

Australia has shown a willingness to cooperate in the testing of first-strike weapons — the MX missile. Will the US next involve Australians in the flagrant violation of the ABM Treaty, and a further dangerous destabilization of the global strategic situation?

What is happening in Australia right now— in Pine Gap, Nurrungar and Northwest Cape? As Australians we do not have the right to ask. Perhaps it's time we demanded to know.



NUCLEAR WINTER

If you thought that we, Australians would be the "LUCKY COUNTRY" by virtue of being in the southern hemisphere, when it came to surviving a nuclear war, you have a few nasty shocks coming to you. No doubt "Nuclear Winter" is a term you have heard before and possibly have an idea of what it is about - whatever you believe of the destructive power, short and long term, of a nuclear exchange you've probably underestimated the total destruction!!!

The rendering of a green planet with an abundance of lifeforms to a void lifeless mass is impossible to comprehend. One's first reaction, the most common reaction, is to block it out, pretend it doesn't exist, avoid anything to do with the whole nuclear issue and if something does penetrate, tell yourself the issue is out of your control, you as an individual can't do anything about it. For some people it becomes too real and they become active; if by writing this someone is put in a position of activity, well I'll be happy.

**THE CANBERRA TIMES,
SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1985**

Pentagon admission

WASHINGTON, Friday (AP). — The Defence Department, through the Assistant Defence Secretary addressing a congressional committee, Mr Richard Perle, agreed yesterday that a nuclear war would cause a "nuclear winter" which might wipe out all life on Earth, but told Congress that that was all the more reason to continue President Reagan's weapons build-up and try to get arms-reduction agreement with the USSR.

To be plunged into darkness, low temperatures, violent wind storms, toxic smog and radioactive fallout is collectively called "Nuclear Winter" and is the expected result of an intermediate to major nuclear exchange.

A nuclear explosion causes huge quantities of dust and smoke to be issued into the atmosphere; actual quantities depend on the size and level of the explosion, and environment - i.e. city, plain, or forest. But whatever the yield there will be quantities enough to seriously alter the climate. In an intermediate exchange of 5,000 megatons, (3 'Minutemen 3's with their capacity of 3 warheads) in the northern hemisphere 95 percent of sunlight would be prevented from reaching the ground, i.e. at noon there would be light equivalent to a moonlight night extended over the whole planet.

Presently the atmosphere allows sunlight to reach the ground relatively unhindered, filters out much of the harmful thermal radiation and acts as a heat blanket; in this state the amount of sunlight absorbed in the atmosphere and ground is equal to thermal radiation emitted back into space. With fires and dust of the magnitude after a nuclear explosion the atmosphere make-up will be altered because of the size and colour (black soot) of the particles the action of the atmosphere will be almost reversed i.e. sunlight will be absorbed or reflected in the upper atmosphere allowing little to reach the lower atmosphere, and thermal radiation will pass with little hindrance.



The clouds of dust and smoke will extend to high atmospheric levels where strong winds will blow it within days over the southern hemisphere. The usual cellular air movement will seriously change with air movement flowing directly between the northern and southern hemispheres at phenomenal speeds. These winds are a result of fire vortexes. Coastal areas will have greatest turbulence with cyclonic winds caused by the landmass cooling more rapidly than the oceans. Within days snap freezes will have occurred in localized areas and temperatures would have dropped between 20-40C (if average temperatures drop a couple of degrees there is serious crop failures).

Within a month airflows in the upper atmosphere would have ceased and in the proceeding month the lower atmosphere movement would be near zero - a frozen, dead dark planet. Amongst the same winds that transport the dust and smoke will be toxic substances from burning cities, releases from chemical plants/storage Or the radiation factor - enough radiation to kill the vast majority in the short term and all others in the longer term - any young born would be mutated and very susceptible to disease.

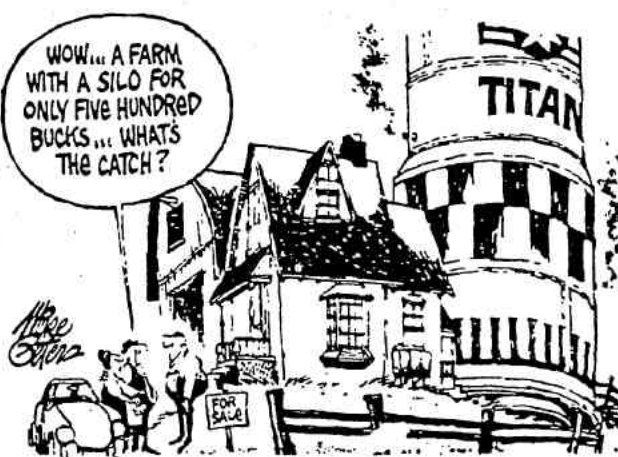
Do you still believe we can survive???

Those interested in a more detailed scientific approach should read 'Scientific American', August 1984 or look through back copies of any major scientific journal/magazine (presently most science magazines have articles on the 'starwars' program) 'Time' had a feature on 'Nuclear Winter' late 1983.

It is a horrendous concept but part of our reality that must be accepted - if it is objectionable we must act to change with what means we have. It cannot be blamed on governments or individuals e.g. Reagan, simply because they depend on public support or public APATHY

- If one does not object then it is assumed one agrees - fair? No but another part of our reality.

Stay Strong



WHAT CAN WE DO?

What can we do to bring an end to violent confrontation in the world? The question seems daunting when we consider the figures and images which haunt us daily. These images remind us of the growing stockpiles of weapons, justified by resorting to the concept of deterrence, but nevertheless designed to kill human beings and maim the earth. It becomes even more daunting when we consider the connections between violence and other forms of social injustice such as the oppressive power structures which allow massive arms build-ups to occur at the expense of other human needs. This mentality places a priority on the destruction of enemies (real or perceived) rather than the welfare of humanity.

It is difficult not to throw up our arms in despair and think that the problem is too huge to tackle. However, changes need to be made on a number of levels, and by questioning assumptions which we have lived with and accepted for most of our lives, we are already beginning to change the world. Personal change needs to be backed with positive change in the institutions and people around us.

One function of peace groups, such as the Student Disarmament Group can be to help us as individuals in personal change. These groups provide the solidarity and support of people with similar aims, while maintaining a diversity which introduces us to different views.

To bring about institutional changes, we can show the community, and those in power, alternative ways of living. We can also counter the ideas perpetuated by dominant agencies in society today such as the media and large corporations which are often one and the same.

The Palm Sunday Rally for Peace on March 31st provides an opportunity for all people and peace-related groups to express their concern. By stressing specific, important issues such as the removal of US bases, the prevention of uranium mining and the stopping of port visits by US nuclear-armed or powered vessels, we bring to light the immediate and great threat of nuclear war. However, it should not be forgotten to link these specific demands with the need to examine and question broader, more intangible, but no less threatening patterns of violence such as the treatment of women in patriarchal society.

Another thing we can do is to provide support for peace actions taking place around the world. For example, supporting New Zealand's stand against nuclear-armed vessels by sending letters of support to peace groups there and to the New Zealand government and newspapers. There is an even greater need to show support to groups who receive less publicity and sympathy. For example, the Philippino group, the Gabriella Women's Peace Group, fighting for the removal of the nuclear power plant at Bataan which was built by Westinghouse Electric Corporation and rests on an earthquake fault-line. Also, the fledgling, independent peace groups behind the iron curtain whose members are being persecuted and tortured by the state.

The personal empowerment which is achieved through mutual support and positive action for peace provides the hope that individuals can act to bring about change.

Why not use the March 31st Peace Rally as a stepping stone for YOUR involvement in the growing peace movement?

**Prepared by members
of SDG.**

PEACE IS NOT A

PALM SUNDAY RALLY FOR PEACE

1pm: Happiness Youth Rally
- Petrie Plaza.

1-1.45pm: Christians
for Peace Ecumenical
Service - City Hill

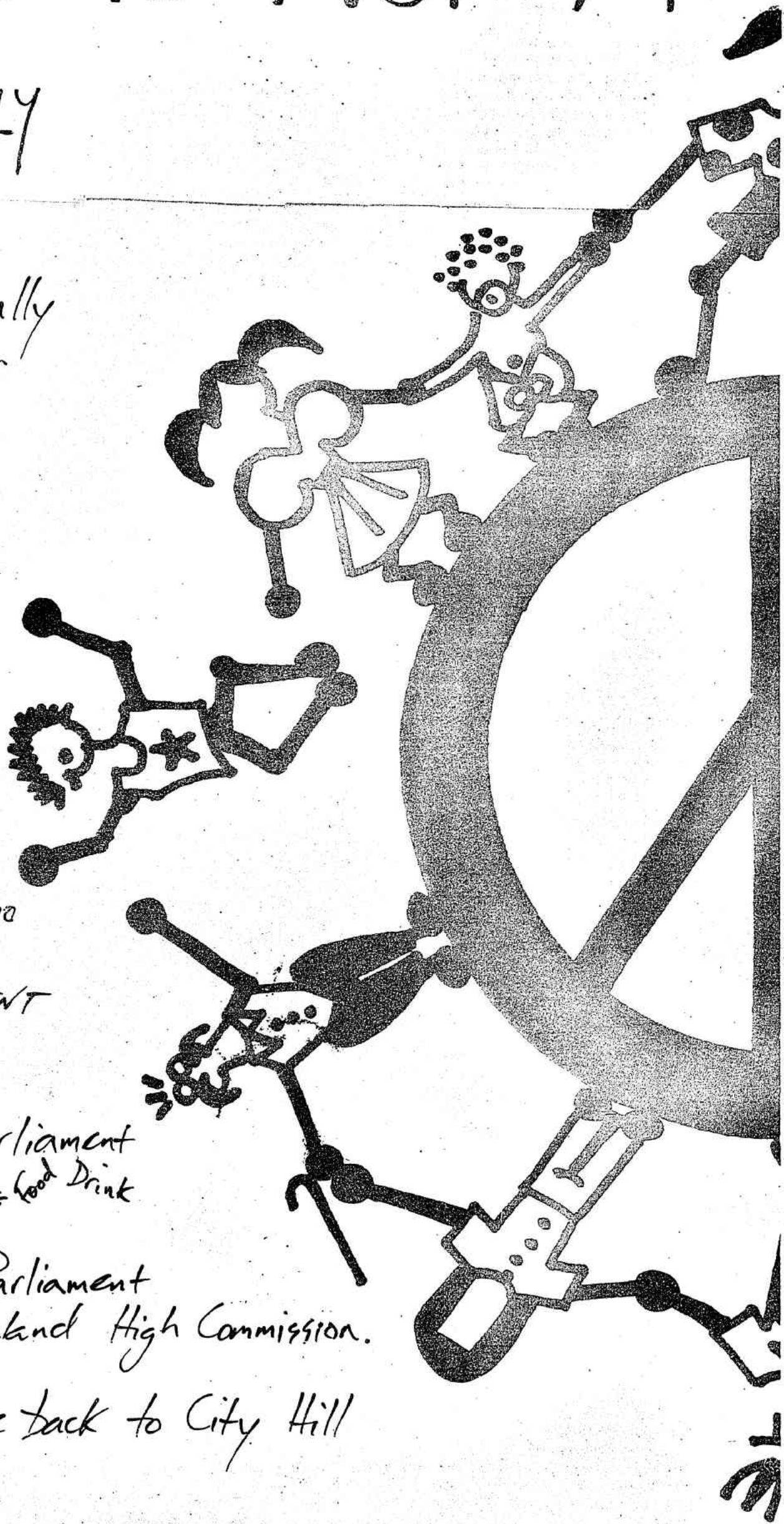
2pm: Peace Rally
- City Hill
(opp. Lakeside Hotel)

Speakers
Margaret Hill
Pat O'shane
Anne-Maria Nemenyo
Youth speakers.
- MARCH TO PARLIAMENT
HOUSE.

3pm: Peace Festival At Parliament
House *Music Theatre Games Food Drink*

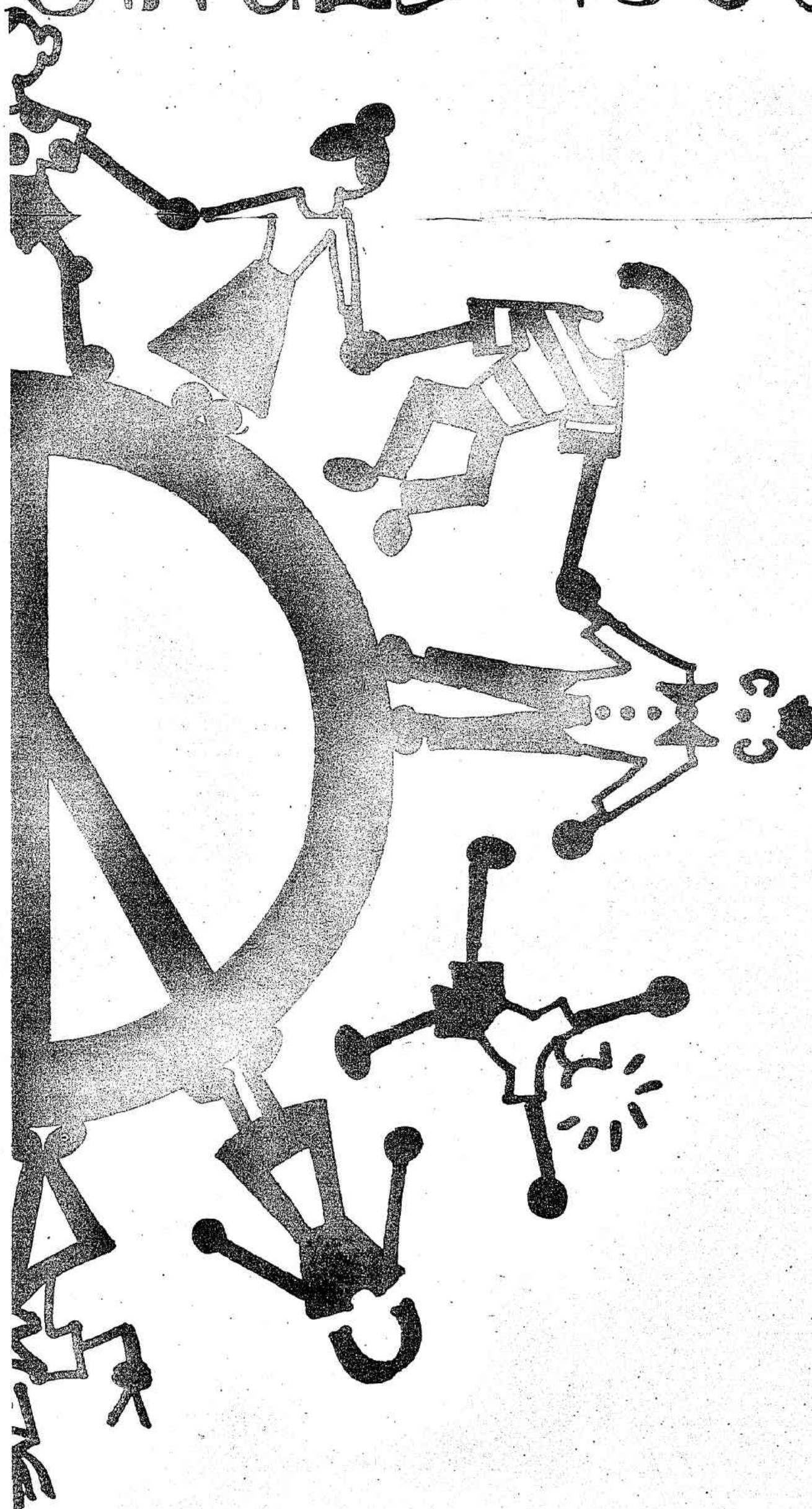
4pm: Human Chain from Parliament
House to New Zealand High Commission.

5pm: **FREE** Bus service back to City Hill



MONDAY 25th MARCH 1985

SINGLE ISSUE



THEID - HACISM - SEX.
 REPRESSION - VIOLENCE - RAI
 AUTHORITY - HIERARCHIES - CHILL
 ABUSE - PORNOGRAPHY - POLLU
 TION - EXPLOITATION - MANIPU
 LATION - ARROGANCE - TECH
 NOLGY - CORPORATIONS - TOTAL
 ITARIANISM - REPRESSION - SUPP
 RESSION - MILITARISM -
 CATEGORISING - COMMERCIALISM
 POLITICAL SYSTEMS - EL
 SALVADOR - PINE GAP - COCKBURN
 SOUND - MARALINGA - NARRUNGAR
 NORTHWEST CAPE - ROXBY DOWNS
 SOUTH AFRICA - THE PACIFIC - NEW
 ZEALAND - NICARAGUA - EAST
 TIMOR - NELSON MANDELA - PAL
 ESTINE - ACCESSIBLE HOUSING
 NUCLEAR WINTER - FELA KUTI
 SELF-DETERMINATION - ANTI
 NATIONALISM - VIOLENCE IN THE
 HOME - THE PHILIPPINES - NO
 PINOCHET - LEBANON - AFGHAN
 ISTAN - SIKHS AND TAMILS - IRAN
 IRAQ WAR - SOLIDARNOSC - NORTH
 ERN IRELAND - LABELLING,
 BOXING - ALL ISM.s - GAY RIGHTS -
 KAMPUCHEA - ACID RAIN - STRIP
 MINING - FEMINISM - MARXISM -
 CAPITALISM - SOCIALISM - COM
 MUNISM - TRADE UNIONISM - FREE
 EXPRESSION - MULTI-NATIONALS
 MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEXES
 ADVERTISING - LAND RIGHTS -
 PROPAGANDA - DOGMA - JINGO
 ISM - MARINES - NUCLEAR-FREE
 A.C.T. - NUCLEAR-FREE PACIFIC
 NUCLEAR-FREE EUROPE
 NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD - NUCLEAR
 FREE SPACE - STAR WARS - FIRST
 STRIKE - DETERRENCE - MUTUAL
 ASSURED DESTRUCTION - SQUATT
 ing - ANARCHY - BARTER ECONOMY
 CHILDCARE - ABORTION - DEPRESSION
 - RECESSION - SUCCESSION
 NUCLEAR REACTORS - SUPER
 POWER HEGEMONY - COMPETITION
 REGANISM - ANIMAL LIBERATION
 NEW CALEDONIA - INFLATION
 CORRUPTION - CONFUSION - MIL
 ITARY BASES - ARMIES - NAVIES
 "FORCES"

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - OPL
 ION NOAH - LEGALIZATION OF
 PROSTITUTION - LEGALIZATION OF
 MARIJUANA - JUSTICE - INEQUITIES,
 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - OPER
 ATION NOAH - LEGALIZATION C
 PROSTITUTION - LEGALIZATION
 MARIJUANA - JUSTICE - INEQUI"

Shit a BRICK!

It's...



Fabrique

by John Taylor

Thought for the time being:
Blessed are they that run 'round in circles for they shall qualify as big wheels.

WATER SPORTS

According to my amazingly precocious little sister there is one heck of a lot of regulations in force these days. When she first mentioned this revelation, dear reader, I must confess that I dismissed her with a diffident gesture and went back to whatever I was doing at the time. I for one, having written for WORONI before, know all about rules and regulations.

But I digress. My sister went on to quote the rules as such of the Manuka swimming pool which she is wont to patronize. Quite apart from the normal rules, i.e. No running, jumping, splashing, soaking, armadillo juggling etc. there is a rule forbidding 'petting' in or around the pool. The mind boggles. Has, I wonder the latent de-sexing of society entered the turquoise depths of the Manuka pool? Is there some dread disease to be contracted from aquatic canoodling (Floatation AIDS?).

The more my rabid (yet amazing) imagination pondered the question, the more bogged down I became. Maybe the proprietors of the pool believe that underwater snogging should be banned in order to preserve some semblance of decency in the otherwise sinful and decadent suburbs of Canberra.

But what really tickled my fancy is the punishments that one could envisage for purveyors of water-groping. I would be in favour of lashing the two reprobates together with bikini-top straps and then beating them to death with a zippy board or perhaps throwing them into the pool and introduce a person-eating carp from Lake Burley Griffin. Ideally the best action would be to do nothing at all, as everyone knows that the more you clamp down on something the more people will practise it. That is simply being Australian.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT ANSWERS

Dear reader, especially those in first year, I have some advice. Do not be surprised this year if your many many questions of lecturers/tutors/students/ bar staff etc. go either unanswered or the answers will be as incomprehensible as possible. This is quite normal.

I once questioned a lecturer about the feasibility of a certain practical experiment I was told 'the project is the translation of a theoretical phenomenon into something practical with the emphasis on a pan-dimensional interlocking dobblywacky attachment powered by a user controlled interface'. Don't ask me what that means as I didn't know then and I don't know now. I didn't do that lecturer's course but my brother did. How in the hell he got a D let alone a P is anyone's guess.

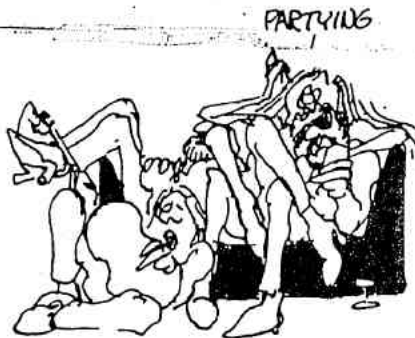
Students, especially student politicians are equally pedantic whether they be Left Alliance, Liberal or Wombat worshipper. Question them on an issue and they will confuse you so much that you can't remember what in hell you asked in the first place. Example: During the Student Assoc. elections 1983 I went along to the hustings to hear the pathetic bleatings in general, and the Leftie pathetic bleatings in particular.

There was one chap, positively glowing with earnestness who stood for such vital matters as anarchy at ANU and communist control of Captains Flat. I listened for a bit and then asked him 'Are you Marxist?' (I'm a Pol.Sci student) I was later treated to an incredible lecture that left an indelible blank on my mind and a desire to hurl stones and abuse at all student politicians thereafter. I also asked myself (for I don't talk to strangers) 'What are this lot doing at ANU?'

Now, not even I could answer that, thus I have become obsessed with not asking any questions at all, of anybody for fear of doing people untold damage when they do their best to confuse me. Australians are like that especially office bearers who will attempt to confuse the pleb over the most petty things. I am at the moment pondering (whilst sitting on a decrepit bar bench) the rather trivial question of what happens to the money allocated to the ANU Union and the Students' Association from the Student General Services Fee.

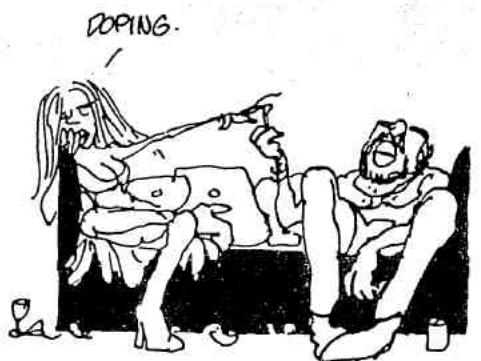
Anyone got an answer?

Soon after you start uni you realise that there are two kinds of life going on here. Study is one kind. As you sit there trying to think of clever things to say in tutorials it suddenly hits you that this is quite unnecessary, as what they want is not your opinions done up to look like theirs, but their opinions done up to look like yours. Pleasure is the other kind - a totally different experience. Here the well adjusted, individualistic, outgoing and sophisticated man in the street (or middle



aged mum) can really have a good time. Take the art of conversation, for instance. In some circles (squares prohibited) you can say anything you like, as long as someone has heard it before. These people rightly believe that thinking outside the library toilet leads to cancer of the brain, is unprofitable, and probably illegal as well. In other circles, originality is the rule, on pain of not being allowed to sit at God's table when you get to Heaven, because you're such a bore. References

to the fungus in the coffee cups are definitely passe unless uttered in Shakespearean Croat and accompanied by smacking of the lips. Both circles consist of about two or three people, and everyone is in them. As far as dress goes, you can exercise your full creative flair; encase you bulges in anything as long as it's denim, and fulfil your unlimited potential to look like either John Lennon, Madonna, or Billy Idol. Social life is a prescribed text, the



FUN'S FUN AL.
BUT I GOT
AMBITION.



authorised version of which costs only about \$150 a week, and involves about 25 intimate friends (on a weekly basis only) 82 cans of beer, 16 wild parties, 20 visits to the uni bar (not counting the times you just went out to be sick), a pound of illegal potplant and as many lovers as will fit onto your floor space at any one time without dislodging the hi fi system. If you are a pathetic, lonely misfit you may not altogether enjoy this (but - you can

learn!). Introspection, like every deviation, is of course welcome, as long as it takes place in public. Nasty habits such as not wearing a smile where people can see you (the worst sort of indecent exposure) and sleeping in at night, especially alone, are not encouraged. Finally, the orthodox hedonist has now thrown away all his inhibitions (which have been kindly adopted by the Campus Evangelical Union). Sex can be discussed at any time, though as we



all know people who talk about it don't do it. Insanity is great fun as long as no-one is abnormal by mistake. Above all, pleasure in ANU is anything that turns you on. If it doesn't, put up or shut up; we don't want any perverts round here!

[WHY THIS WORD?
Ed.]
(Signed: semi-illiterate misogynist
crank of Toarl Hall)

Gravity-Free Mail

The Editors have, in the last two weeks, received another letter from the self-appointed Secretary of the AGL, detailing his own actions and those of the rest of the AGL, that was forced to leave the country following a lost court action against Australian Gas Lines (see Issue 1). Again, only those details from the letter have been removed that would enable the extradition of these intrepid souls back to Australia. It is otherwise intact.

"We had been at Dr Feelgood's rope farm for several days when disaster suddenly struck. After a particularly intensive bout of research into use of hemp flowers (which became hampered by decreasing visibility — where was all that smoke coming from?) it was suggested that an open window would let the odd molecule of oxygen in. Two windows were opened, and the draft that resulted blew every single floating member of the intrepid AGL band out the window. "What happened?" queried Adolphous from several hundred feet up.

"Who cares?" came the chorused reply.

"Not I!" roared Diogenes Rubblefoot, the AGL's Special Minister for Suspicious Circumstances.

The others just stared as New Zealand disappeared and sank slowly beneath the horizon as we were blown further and further East. The last thing we saw was a hundred thousand sheep.

"What did ewe think of New Zealand?" asked Diogenes.

"Not baa-a-aad" replied Adolphous sheepishly.

"That's what Ian Sinclair said when he was asked about his sex-life, wasn't it?" asked our secretary Phillip J. Enzyme.

No-one replied as we watched the South Pacific zoom beneath us.

Several days later we floated over a flotilla of Japanese boats clustered around a large crimson stain in the water.

"What the hell are they doing?" demanded Phillip.

"Just having a whale of a time."

"Stop it, you bastards!!!" we yelled in unison. They didn't stop, they just changed targets. To US! We

got out of range before they scored a hit.

"What possible porpoise is there in doing that?" asked Phillip.

"Money, I think."

"Sounds fishy to me" replied Phillip "they could just be doing it for the halibut."

"I sea!" exclaimed Diogenes.

"I suppose you think that's finny?"

We floated on in silence.

Later that day we floated over Argentina. We were about to stop there, when a large projectile that disturbingly resembled an Exocet came straight towards us.

We tried to explain that we weren't British but that didn't help — it kept coming. As a last-ditch effort, one of our number flung his Margaret Thatcher T-shirt at it.

It put it on and left us alone. Before any of its comrades could come for us, we beat a hasty eastward retreat. Stopping only as we reached the Falklands.

We could see nothing but sheep. "Are you sure we aren't back in N.Z.?" someone asked. We watched several sheep walk across an apparently innocent pasture and get blown into little red pieces as they discovered a hidden mine field. "This can't possibly be NZ," said Diogenes, "David Lange is a pacifist. He would never allow exploding sheep access to NZ pastures." What a messy way to make lamb-chops. We walked along a road towards Stanley.

"They wouldn't have mined the roads too, would they?" asked Diogenes.

"Of course not!" yelled Phillip. "Don't be so stupid!" Phillip then openly contradicted himself by finding a mine and being blown sky-high.

"Smart-ass," said Diogenes. "He won't do that again in a hurry."

Being as risky as it was to travel by foot, it was entirely fortunate that the first thing we saw when we walked into Stanley was a double-parked Hawker Harrier. Adolphous looked around furtively. "Quick, see if they left the keys in it" he said. Diogenes clambered into the cockpit. They had. We piled into the jet.

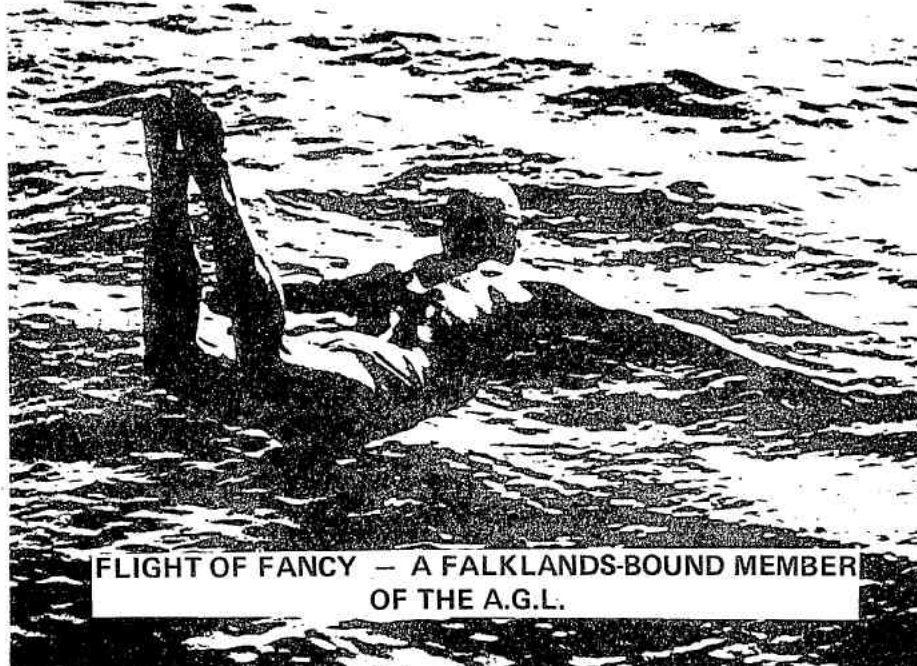
"Does anyone know how to start this thing?" we asked each other, expecting the answer 'No'.

"Sure," said Daniel Boon, one of our quietest members. This control here" he said as he pushed a lever and drove us into the front of a shop, "makes us go forward, and this button" which he promptly pressed, "makes us go up." Our altitude reached 600 feet within seconds.

It was from this superlative viewpoint that we could make out the superlative view. Amongst the sights we expected to see was something we definitely didn't — an enormous greenhouse with "Dr Feelgood's rope farms — South Atlantic Division" printed on the top.

"What do we do now?" asked Daniell. What a silly question!! We landed next to the greenhouse and went inside to renew our interest in horticulture. We are now all confirmed flower-lovers.

END OF LINE



FLIGHT OF FANCY — A FALKLANDS-BOUND MEMBER OF THE A.G.L.

A.G.L.

ODE to ORGANS

Have you got a liver for our dying baby son?

Have you got a heart for a life that's just begun?

Our daughter needs bone marrow Her parents are afraid

Our son needs a transfusion — But please don't give him AIDS

Uncle Bert needs new legs To stop him going lame, Uncle Fred is senile He needs a brand new brain.

Cousin Mal needs teeth Auntie Flo' needs hair

An arm for sister Susan A foot for Auntie Clair

Where are all the donors Who seem to call the tune? Sometimes it's road victims Sometimes it's baboons.

They can't all be no-bodies Who live a life of gloom Maybe they're thought criminals Or millionaire tycoons.

Have you got a weak heart? Have you got weak lungs?

We can replace all organs With artificial ones.

It really is expensive It'll keep you in the red But as we always say Better red than dead.

So if you've got an organ That you do not need

We'll package it and freeze it Then send it overseas.

In clinical conditions They'll examine all its genes

to see if it's compatible And find out where it's been.

— John Moore

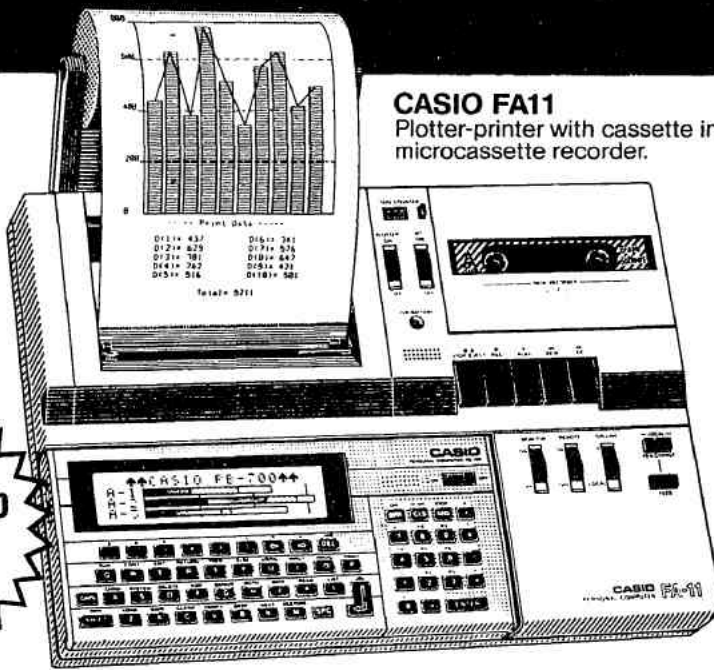
CASIO. THE EXAM BEATERS.

The Casio range of technically superior pocket personal computers is designed to tackle the really tough tasks.

CASIO PB700

With the addition of the FA11 printer and microcassette recorder it's a total computer system. A complete package that fits in a briefcase. No matter what your subject, it can be programmed to tackle your tough tasks quickly and easily. Can be upgraded with 4K RAM Pack giving up to 16K of memory.

Recommended Retail
\$840.00
complete. Special student tax-free prices available.



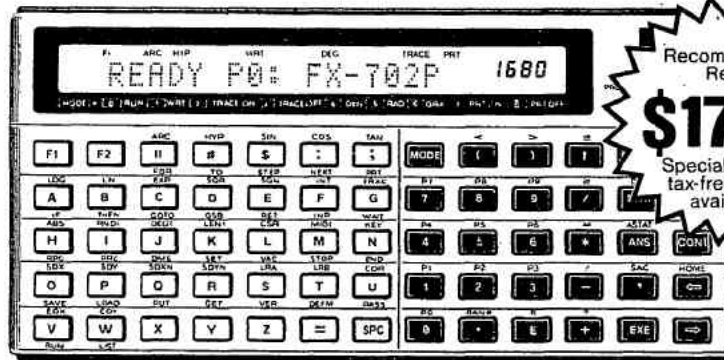
CASIO FA11
Plotter-printer with cassette interface and built-in microcassette recorder.



CASIO PB110

Really two machines in one, a compact BASIC language computer with a 10 programme capacity and a Data Bank that lets you store the information you require.

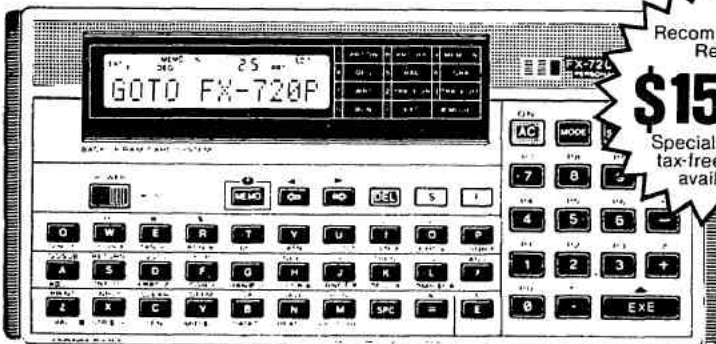
Recommended Retail
\$99.95
Special student tax-free prices available.



CASIO FX702P

A sophisticated problem solver. Featuring an alphabet keyboard, a total of 55 separate key scientific functions, 1568 programme steps and 226 memories. Developed specifically for students.

Recommended Retail
\$179.00
Special student tax-free prices available.



CASIO FX720P

An easy to handle computer featuring RAM cards with built-in batteries. The Data Bank holds all your information and, when combined with BASIC programmes, can be used for an extensive range of tasks. Ideal for students. Can be upgraded with individual 4K RAM Packs.

Recommended Retail
\$159.00
Special student tax-free prices available.



CASIO FX750P

Small, powerful, complete. Slide-in RAM card gives storage and instant access to any data. Using BASIC programming it can open up rapid processing with a full 66 scientific functions. Can be upgraded with two 4K or 8K RAM Cards giving up to 16K of memory.

Recommended Retail
\$249.00
Special student tax-free prices available.

... AND A COMPLETE RANGE OF ACCESSORIES:
INTERFACE, PRINTERS, MEMORY, PAPER, PENS, BOOKS.



DISTRIBUTED AND WARRANTED BY  MOBEX

Available from:

CANBERRA COLLEGE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION STATIONERY SHOP — Bruce (062) 52 2003.
UNIVERSITY PHARMACY — Canberra University (062) 48 6887.

MBX105

INTERHALL NEWS HALLS & COLLEGES-ARE THEY REALLY TURNING AWAY STUDENTS?

On Friday, 8 March 1985, the ANU REPORTER disclosed on its front page that Halls of Residence had been turning away students at the beginning of the current academic year.

This, I believe, is largely a false accusation, based purely (it would appear) upon the facts and figures presented by each hall and college, to the Student Accommodation Office. Before I continue let me say that by referring to a 'Hall of Residence' or 'College' I am describing one of the six halls or colleges at the ANU (Bruce, Burton and Garran, Ursula, John XXIII, Toad and Burgmann) as distinct from other accommodation such as Graduate House or Lennox 'A' Block.

The ANU REPORTER revealed that the shortage of 'on campus' accommodation was most apparent in the 'budget-price' areas such as Burton and Garran Hall and Toad Hall. Agreed! It appears that Burton and Garran's admissions policy is the most explicit on campus and adheres to a University stipulation that halls and colleges should provide accommodation for no more than ten percent non-ANU students. (i.e. other tertiary and non-tertiary residents). B & G have 15 residents in this category (3%). Toad Hall's situation appears to be very much in line with Burton & Garran's. The problem of student accommodation is highlighted when one begins to investigate the admissions policies adopted by the catered halls and colleges.

Bruce Hall may have 'a small, but real waiting list', but within Bruce at present there are 14 non-ANU students (6%); although of the 214 ANU students, 30 are post-graduates - are these the students Bruce Hall should be catering for?

Ursula College provides us with an even better example of how the problem of student accommodation has been exaggerated. (You wait till we get to John's) of the 197 residents in Ursula this year over 16 percent are non-ANU (32). Furthermore the composition of Ursula is decided upon entirely by the administrative body; there are no students on any selection committee which means the make-up of Ursula is entirely at the discretion of the Ursula Nuns - it is felt (even in Ursula itself) that this has had some bearing on the fact that 20 percent (33) of Ursula's ANU students are post-graduates.

John XXIII, unfortunately, provides the highlight of the student accommodation problem at the ANU. In 1985 John's (with places for 288 residents) has available, accommodation for no less than 82 athletes from the Australian Institute of Sport. This figure alone accounts for 28 percent of the accommodation available at John's. Add to this the 32 other non-ANU residents at John's this year, and one finds that almost 40 percent of John XXIII are not in fact ANU students. Yet this college is affiliated with the University and therefore supposedly subject to the 10 percent 'outsiders' quota.

Burgmann College seems to be almost as guilty as Ursula. Of Burgmann's 243 residents, some 33 are non-ANU (including 12 AIS), constituting nearly 14 percent of residents (still above the University's quota).

With this apparent 'overflow' of non-ANU students must also come a number of explanations:

BRUCE: no new non-ANU students are being admitted, unless they have had siblings at Bruce Hall in the past.

URSULA: This college strives for a more 'general' student intake that does not entail either pure academic excellence

or sporting/social excellence, but a combination of both - yet this doesn't seem to prevent Ursula's being made up of a large number of post-graduates or non-ANU students!

BURGMANN: The admissions policy has come under some scrutiny over the past few weeks, as a result of a lack of communication between the college administration and the students. While admissions are ultimately in the hands of the master, a small body of students partake in the selection of new students. Due to the fact that there was a breakdown in communications at the end of 1984; students did not have their say until after offers had been sent!

JOHN XXIII: Basically John's put forward three points concerning admissions, 1) the AIS will not be back in 1986, 2) Some 40 rooms at John's are left for AIS residents coming into the college at various times during the year, 3) selection of 'students' is at the discretion, albeit total discretion, of the master.

So, how does all this tie in with the problem faced by ANU students seeking residential accommodation on campus?

To start with, I believe much of the problem lies with cost, not necessarily a shortage of accommodation. The two 'low cost' halls of residence seem to be bursting at the seams (B & G and Toad each have waiting lists of over 70 - say 140 between them.) Yet, quite obviously, the four other halls and colleges are 'topping' up with non-ANU students in order to fill their rooms.

To further add to the problem, there seems to be amongst those seeking accommodation in the self-cook residences, a large number of students who wish to transfer from catered halls and colleges for (a) dietary reasons, and (b) a preference for own cooking. On this basis one would have to say that in some cases, financial aspects are overridden by the 'luxury' of determining your own diet! Does this suggest that there may be greater demand for 'self-cook' accommodation, rather than purely the low cost?

The solution lies not only with the halls and colleges themselves, but with the university in general. Under the Commonwealth Government's proposed new structure for financial assistance to halls and colleges, the University shall determine the guidelines for eligibility for that financial assistance (which previously has been allocated directly by the Government). If the University follows what appears to be Government policy and allocates these funds on a 'needs' basis, it may decree that because of the large numbers of students seeking accommodation at B & G and Toad, that these students should be given priority in the distribution of financial assistance; disregarding the catered halls and colleges who find themselves 'topping up' with seemingly illegitimate residents. Why shouldn't the catered halls and colleges be given preference, which would help decrease fees and hence make them attractive to students who can't afford the astounding \$90 per week that these halls and colleges charge? I contend that it is the \$55 gap between the self-catering and the catered halls and colleges that has created much of the 'on-campus' accommodation problem.

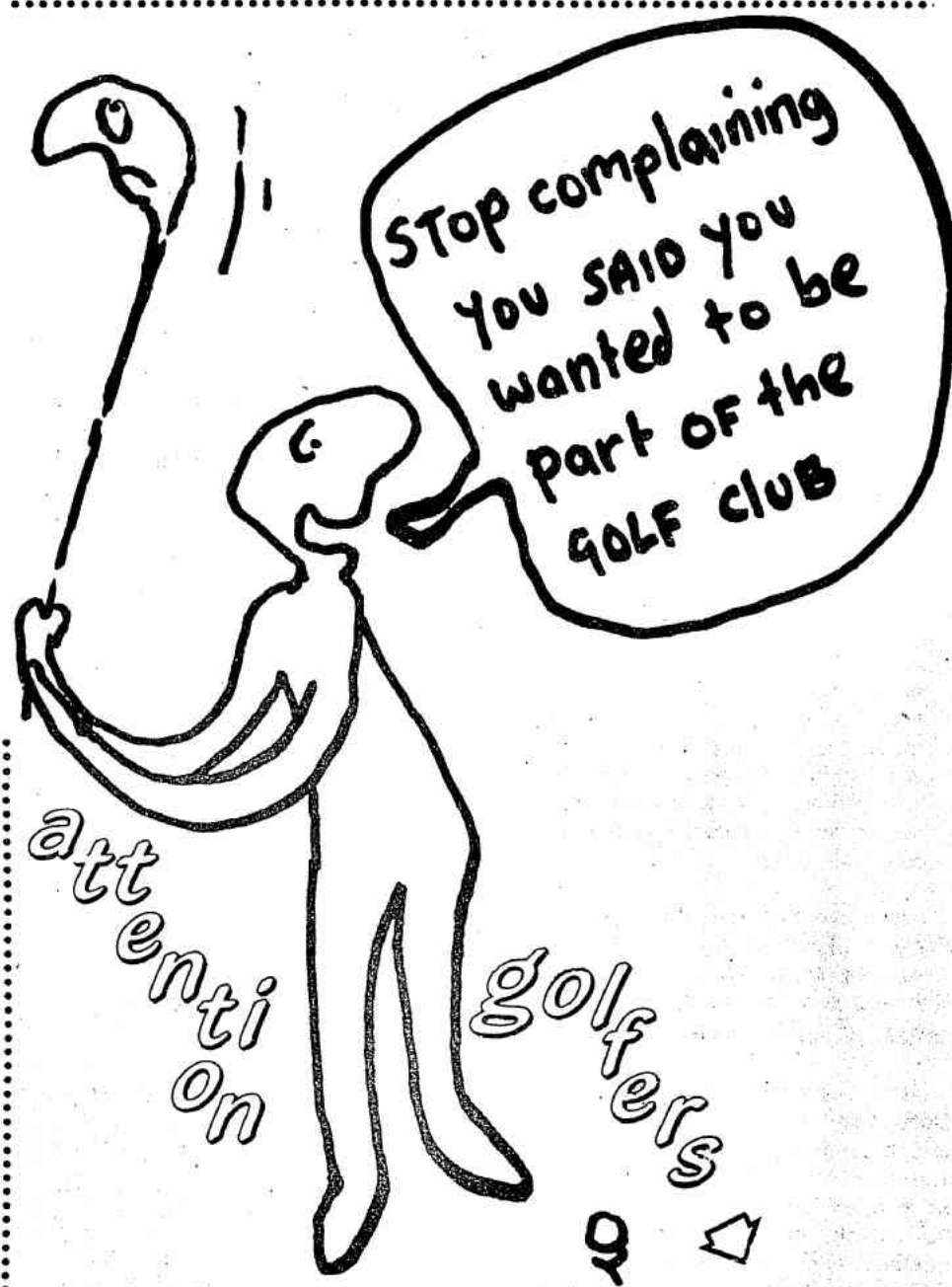
In conclusion, we have apparently 161 places within the catered halls and colleges that have been allocated to non-ANU students. At the same time we have about 140 students attempting to find accommodation in self-catering halls of residence.

The ANU REPORTER's article merely concludes that administrators at halls and colleges say it is difficult to gauge the effect of the Government's decision to begin phasing out subsidies for residential accommodation, and that there seems to be no signs of a diminishing demand for places in halls of residence. The problem is, that if catered halls and colleges are deprived of this vital assistance, then pressure on the self-catering halls of residence for accommodation will increase dramatically, while other halls and colleges at the ANU will continue to struggle to fill places with genuine students; leading to the already much vaunted accusation that catered halls and colleges are affluent nestings for the rich, which (certainly in the case of the ANU) they do not wish to become; rather, they would prefer to be able to provide facilities they offer at the cheapest possible fee.

I suggest the University should be looking more seriously at the position of halls and colleges with regards to student accommodation problems on campus. If this increasing obvious gap between the fees of self-catering halls and the catered halls and colleges is allowed to continue to widen, the ANU might really have an 'on campus' accommodation problem.

While I make suggestions here, I do believe this is an important issue and one the University should not ignore - but these are my views on what I believe is an important issue - what are your views?

Dick Hankin



Attention golfers, do you feel that golf is too expensive to play in Canberra? When you play, do you find yourselves always playing with people of the older generation? I have rarely played golf while I have been at the ANU for precisely these two reasons. I presume that there must be other people on campus with the same problems. If you are of like mind and still like golf, then have I got a proposal for you!

What I want to do is to apply to the ANU Sports Union asking them to register this club under their sponsorship. But there is one catch, to do this then I need support, i.e. names to give them. If the Sports Union does register us as an official club they provide us with travel expenses and sponsor our competitions. With this help, our club can approach the various golf clubs in Canberra and ask them to give student concess-

ions to our members and also to set aside times for us to hold student competitions. I think that this proposal should seem quite reasonable to them.

In addition, the proposed club shouldn't have any trouble joining the national student golf organisation called Intervarsity. Intervarsity is where all the golfing students get together in a certain place and spend a week playing golf and having a good time with people who are generally in the same boat as you.

So if you are a golfer studying at ANU, then the ANU Golf Club is for YOU. If you are interested in forming this club and have further enquiries, please ring Steve at Lennox House on 49 4148. AND REMEMBER, you don't have to be good at golf, even if you have never played the game in your life, you can still join.

DORIS LESSING— her life

Doris Lessing was born in Persia on October 22nd, 1919. Since then her life has spanned two worlds — Africa and Europe.

At the age of five, Lessing's family left Persia to settle in Rhodesia, joining the wave of European settlers after World War I. Her childhood was spent on the solitary hills and plains of her family's Rhodesian farm. She had little formal schooling, which was ceased altogether when she had eye trouble at the age of 14. Over the next five years of her life, Lessing read the works of the major Russian, French and English writers. She also deepened her appreciation of the African landscape and her understanding of the social arrangements of colonial Rhodesia.

At the age of 19, Doris Lessing moved to Salisbury and commenced work in an office, whilst writing in her spare time. The following year she married Frank Wisdom. She gave birth to a son and a daughter before the marriage ended in divorce. Two years later she married Gottfried Lessing. This marriage also ended in divorce.

In 1949 Lessing moved to London and settled there permanently after she was prevented from re-entering Rhodesia in 1956 as a 'Prohibited Immigrant'. During 1953-56 she was a member of the British Communist Party, however this never seems to have been a strong commitment. Her leftist leanings stemmed from her reaction to Rhodesia's intensely racist and classist society. As she says:

"There was a time in my life when I was a member of a Communist group which was pure — they had no contact with any kind of reality. It must have been blessed by Lenin from his grave, it was so pure . . . for a period of about three years, a group of enormously idealistic and mostly extremely intellectual people created a communist party in a vacuum, which no existing communist party anywhere in the world would have recognised as such."

Upon leaving the British Communist Party in 1956 Lessing has principally been a writer, as well as being active in the Peace and Anti-Apartheid Movements.

WRITING ABOUT AFRICA

It was as a writer about Africa that Doris Lessing first came to public attention, and she continued to publish works set in Africa until 1965 when *Landlocked* (1965) was written. In her novels, she portrayed an Africa dominated by colonial settlers, which derives its features from what is now Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi and South Africa. Calling it "Zambesie" in her books, she says of it:

"My Zambesie is a composite of various white dominated parts of Africa." During this period of her writing, Lessing exposed white African society and its foundations. However her function was not to judge but to show 'something about what it feels like to live in Rhodesia'. Her work is based on human relationships and on the political and social realities which determine the nature of these relationships. She skilfully presents a picture of the complex web of interactions that evolve between Africa and European on an everyday basis, in city and countryside, and the ironic ways in which conflict between these two groups is constantly and hauntingly present. As an observer of Lessing's writing puts it:

"There is no exclusive focus, certainly no imposed didacticism, people white and black, relationships, place, the flora and fauna — often perceived with a child's lonely concentrated gaze — make up a lively mosaic, uncircumscribed by narrow intention."

A striking theme of her writings about Africa is the many manifestations of racial division evident between African domestic servants and European women. Her first book, *The Grass is Singing* (1950) explores this theme by taking it to the logical but socially unacceptable extreme. In it, the central figure, Mary, becomes obsessively attracted to her male domestic servant. Other developments of this theme include more ironical and amusing situations where well-meaning Europeans undertake 'charitable acts' which are either deliberately or unintentionally misunderstood by the Africans, with disastrous results for them. Lessing also examines the isolation of women in the Veld, whose husbands have devoted their lives to the task of taming Africa and who have no time to allocate to their wives. The women are therefore committed to a pathetic existence, enlivened only by brief interludes with other women in the same position.

A background for the human interactions that Lessing scrutinises, is the African landscape. This appreciation of the natural life of the Veld offsets her approach to African conflicts and struggle for a worthwhile existence, and makes her work the success it is. A demonstration of Lessing's approach to Africa is made in the following extract from one of her short stories. In it two children (one white and the other black) are observed by the child's mother and a black servant, Gideon. Unstated but always present is the seizure of African land by settlers.

"the two little children would gaze at each other with a wide interested gaze, and once Teddy put out his hand curiously to touch the black child's cheeks and hair.

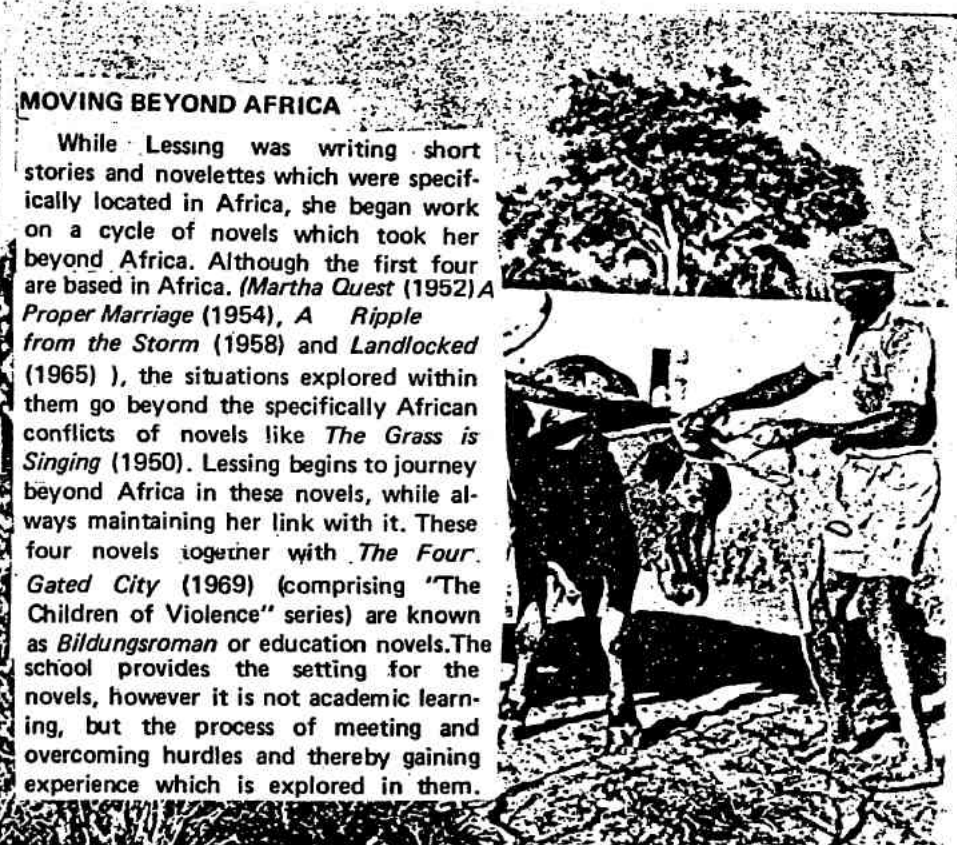
Gideon who was watching, shook his head wonderingly, and said: "Ah missus, these are both children, and one will grow up to be a master and one will be a servant"; and Mrs Farquar smiled and said sadly, "Yes, Gideon, I was thinking the same."

Much later in the story, Gideon observes the white child has grown up and observes wryly to himself:

"Ah, little Yellow Head how you have grown! Soon you will be grown up with a farm of your own . . ."



DORIS



MOVING BEYOND AFRICA

While Lessing was writing short stories and novelettes which were specifically located in Africa, she began work on a cycle of novels which took her beyond Africa. Although the first four are based in Africa. (*Martha Quest* (1952), *Proper Marriage* (1954), *A Ripple from the Storm* (1958) and *Landlocked* (1965)), the situations explored within them go beyond the specifically African conflicts of novels like *The Grass is Singing* (1950). Lessing begins to journey beyond Africa in these novels, while always maintaining her link with it. These four novels together with *The Four Gated City* (1969) (comprising "The Children of Violence" series) are known as *Bildungsroman* or education novels. The school provides the setting for the novels, however it is not academic learning, but the process of meeting and overcoming hurdles and thereby gaining experience which is explored in them.

Spreading what is essentially one story over five novels gave Lessing the capacity to develop a flexible and intricate approach in "The Child of Violence" series. She is able to build an expanding range of interconnections between Martha Quest and society, weaving an intricate web which is rivaled only by the complexity of Martha's character development. Lessing has also been able to give a wide commentary on important issues with a life story which begins in the 1930s and ends in the 1960s. In appreciation of this scope of action, Michael Thorpe observes:

"The portrayal of a life like Martha's which responds intensely to all facets of experience, enables Ms Lessing to deal naturally with a great variety of modern situations and problems, both major and minor. These are pursued over a span of thirty years and convey

a multifarious sense of the moving age . . . her expanding relationships gradually involve major issues and events of our time. An impromptu list would include colonialism, black and white relationships, changing sexual attitudes, anti-Semitism and Zionism, the several faces of Communism, the drift since the Second World War in the shadow of The Bomb, the protest movement against it in Britain, the psychology of despair, changing views of 'normal' behaviour, and attempts to confront the dark future."

It is no surprise therefore that readers have seen in the story of Martha Quest a reflection of their own situations, desires and conflicts.

The Golden Notebook (1962) has been a different kind of bellwether for devotees of Doris Lessing. It deals with the question of what it means to be a woman in today's complex society, as such it struck a sympathetic chord amongst the perceptive and far-sighted. It was not primarily intended to be a feminist novel, but it fulfilled that need in the community when it was written. In the process, Lessing's attempt to show that "sometimes when people 'crack up' it is a way of self healing," was completely lost. What most readers discovered was book which authentically

ive psychiatric techniques. However, for the professor reality was destroyed by psychiatry, and the reader finishes the book disturbed by the problems of defining reality and illusion.

Another aspect of Lessing's work during this phase has been an examination of the possible cataclysmic future of our world. *Memoir of a Survivor* is possibly one of Lessing's most depressing books. Set in a future London, it is a novel about the final disintegration of society the day after the bomb is dropped. In it Lessing portrays the inevitable vandalism and mobo-rule which seems likely to eventuate if action is not taken to prevent the nuclear MADness presently taking place.

At present Lessing has no paeans of hope for the future. Her belief that the development of para-normality may give this world a chance for survival is only a muted theme when it is compared to the strength of her conviction that catastrophe is increasingly inevitable. "Everyone in the world now has moments when he [sic] throws down a newspaper, turns off the radio, shuts his [sic] ears to the man [sic] on the platform and holds out his [sic] hand and looks at it, overtaken with terror.

. . . . We think: the tiny units of the matter of my hand, my flesh are shared with walls, tables, pavements, trees, flowers, soil . . . and suddenly,

THE WORKS OF DORIS LESSING

Short Story Collections:

- This Was the Old Chiefs' Country* 1951
- The Habit of Loving* (1957)
- A Man and Two Women* (1963)
- African Stories* (1964)
- The Story of a Non-Marrying Man and Other Stories* (1972)
- (published in the US as *The Temptation of Jack Orkney and Other Stories* (1972))

Novels and Novelettes

- The Grass is Singing* (Novel— 1950)
- Five novels, which together form a series known as "The Children of Violence"
- a) *Martha Quest* (1952)
- b) *A Proper Marriage* (1954)
- c) *A Ripple from the Storm* (1958)
- d) *Landlocked* (1965)
- e) *The Four Gated City* (1969)

Five — a collection of five short novels (1953)

- Retreat to Innocence* (1956)
- The Golden Notebook* (1962)
- Briefing for a Descent into Hell* (1971)
- The Summer Before the Dark* (1973)
- Memoirs of a Survivor* (1975)

Personal Narrative

- Going Home* (1957)
- In Pursuit of the English: A Documentary* (1960)
- Particularly Cats* (1967)



Plays and Poems

- Each His Own Wilderness in New English Dramatists*, Three Plays edited by E Martin Browne in Penguin (1959)
- Play with a Tiger: A Play in Three Acts* (1962)
- Fourteen Poems* (1959)
- Four Occasional Poems* published in New Statesman Magazine.
- Here* (17th June 1966)
- A Visit* (4th November 1966)
- Hunger the King* (24th November 1967)
- A Small Girl Throws Stones at a Swan in Regent's Park* (24th November 1967)

Occasional Publications

Ms Lessing has been a fairly prolific writer of book reviews, articles (especially on Sufism a mystical form of Islam), and has given many interviews. Particularly in the 1960s, she wrote a fair bit on the transition to political independence in Southern Africa. A full guide to these works is available in *Michael Thorpe, Doris Lessing's Africa*, available in the ANU in Chifley Library.

LESSING

explored the inner tensions of a sensitive, creative woman — her daily life, politics and sexuality. It is as a signpost that *The Golden Notebook* is valued.

The new direction Lessing took in the 1960s was described by her as "a study of the individual conscience in its relations with the collective."

WRITINGS ABOUT . . . ?

Following the publication of *The Four Gated City* (1969) Lessing left Africa behind, and entered her present phase of writing. Her settings are usually England or Europe and they are concerned with the threat of atomic power and social irresponsibility. Her explorations are unconventional because they are concerned with "another order of world altogether". *Briefing for a Descent into Hell* (1971) is her first in-depth investigation of the ill-defined boundary between 'normality' and 'insanity'. In it a Professor of Classics becomes amnesic, and undertakes mental odseys which are terminated by aggress-

and at any moment a madman [sic] may throw a switch, and flesh and soil and leaves may begin to dance in a flame of destruction. We are all of us made kin with each other and with everything in the world because of the kinship of possible destruction. And the history of the last fifty years does not help us to disbelieve in the possibility of a madman [sic] in a position of power. We are haunted by the image of an idiot hand, pressing down a great black lever; or a thumb pressing a button, as the dance of fiery death begins in one country and spreads over the earth; and above the hand the mad concentrated stare of a mad faced." (from Doris Lessing, 'The Small Personal Voice, part of a collection of writings titled *Declaration* (1957)).

Doris Lessing has recently visited Canberra, and this article was prepared to give a background of her works and life. A full guide to her works is available in Michael Thorpe's *Doris Lessing's Africa*.



THE ARTS

INTERPLAY 1985



Photo, courtesy of Canberra Dance Ensemble

books

fee of only \$50, is however, a lot less than it might have been had INTERPLAY not received great support from the general public. (And some grants from State and Federal Government agencies!) It is largely due to this support that meals, accommodation, Festival theatre tickets and transport costs, will be covered by the Festival Committee for invited delegates.

A broad range of practical workshops, discussions, talks and exhibitions will occur during the festival. It is anticipated that *all* the plays entered in INTERPLAY will receive workshoping — with more than half the plays being dealt with intensely.

A range of plays will also be performed publicly during the Festival. It is hoped that six full length plays will be produced professionally, whilst other shorter productions will receive attention by youth theatre companies. Professional actors and directors will be employed for the workshop program.

So if there are any budding playwrights out there who want to whip up a piece overnight, or if there are any persons interested in attending, simply send your scripts or inquiries to the address seen below:

Judith Ion

The *deadline* for plays to be submitted for INTERPLAY '85 is drawing very near, MARCH 31st. HOWEVER, do not despair if you have not got a script ready to go, because it is possible to attend the FESTIVAL as an *observer*. It is expected that the limited spaces available for observers will go fast, so if you are interested in seeing a variety of plays written by young people from a diverse range of cultures, it is advised that you book now.

It is expected that close to a hundred young playwrights, aged between 11 and 20, will attend the festival as participants. As the Festival is being held in SYDNEY, the largest contingent for such reasons as economy, will be from Australia. It is estimated that 42 participants will be from the host country, whilst the remaining 58 will be selected from a large range of international playwrights.

Because such an event as this requires not only a lot of organizing, but also an immense amount of money, there will be a registration fee that young playwrights selected will have to pay. The

reviews

ENTERTAINMENT
POETRY



Inter Play '85

1st International Festival of Young Playwrights
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA 1985

GUIDE FOR YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS.

Young playwrights aged between 11 and 20 can now send scripts to the International Festival of Young Playwrights for consideration. There will be 42 young playwrights chosen to attend the Festival as Australian delegates. All playwrights sending scripts will receive a written commentary on their work from a professional writer or director.

WHO?

Young playwrights from all States can enter their plays. The age limits are from 11 to 20 (as at 31st March, '85). Only young writers who submit a script will be considered for the Festival. Individual playwrights will get preference over those writing in partnership and group-created scripts will not be considered.

WHEN?

Scripts must be submitted by 31st March, 1985. The Festival runs from 21st to 31st August, '85.

WHAT?

Plays must be original work of high standard and not adaptations from other media. Preference will be given to recent work. Political, religious or sexual attitudes reflected in plays will not affect selection. Scripts must be typed.

COST?

A reading fee of \$5 per script must be sent with all scripts. Those young playwrights selected will have to become members of InterPlay '85 at a fee of \$5 and will be asked to pay a \$50 fee to attend the Festival. All registration, meals, accommodation, Festival theatre tickets and transport costs will be covered by the Festival Committee for invited delegates. (Any young writer can become a member of InterPlay '85 now and receive regular Newsletters and other membership benefits.)

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO : THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR,
1ST INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS,
P.O. BOX 553, BROADWAY, N.S.W. 2007.

It's on again . . .

"THE RHODES SCULLERS' REGATTA"

The 1985 Interhall B & S Ball at the
Yarralumla Woolshed,
April 3rd at 8.30pm

Tickets: Only \$18 per head from your Interhall Rep.

Be there and row till you're wrecked . . .

Canberra (Northside) Community Aid Abroad is holding its annual Walk/cycle Against Want on Sunday April 21st in order to raise money for a pharmaceutical manufacture scheme in Bangladesh and the support of a medical team to work with famine refugees from Tigray (Ethiopia). Walkers, cyclists and sponsors are urgently needed. The sponsorship/information forms can be collected from the circulation desks in the Menzies, Chifley and Crawford buildings, or by ringing X3168.

A friend in passing;
 Yesterday I was told the universe as I know it
 was false. Worse still I was denied a personal view.
 So stripped bare I flattened my soul, what was left
 of it, in an attempt to sit it out. Maybe to slip
 under that wall I had foolishly thought I could vault
 over sans stick.

So, class over, I retreated holding the last speck of
 soul, delicately in one palm not sure whether I should
 even discard it.

Then I met a friend. Hello, I said, I've just
 been to my first honours tut/seminar. Did you shine
 like a star, the friend asked. More like a falling
 one I replied.

Well, you know they're the most brilliant.
 , and we
 passed on. My last speck of soul grew back, because
 of a friend in passing. Thankyou.

T.S.

POETRY



ESCAPE DANCE

(On hearing Elvis Costello's song
 'Free Nelson Mandela')

Primal rhythm
 molecular beat
 time partitions life
 the beat sinks in
 heart felt
 And Nelson Mandela
 couldn't be there
 People dance
 light shatters
 the drunken leers
 to agony smears
 Nelson wasn't there
 he was in prison
 Puppets twirl
 bodies wracked
 in music passion
 gyrating anger
 in every limb
 And Nelson Mandela
 made his own music
 sweat flashes
 for twenty one years
 light dances
 on smoke plumes
 in the same cell
 so I did an
 escape dance
 for him
 and my anger

Pete Lyon



DRIFTER

Drifter you are here
 tedium makes you move
 Your strength your power
 Exudes
 From mind and body and soul
 I feel the touch
 The bubbling fountain
 Renewing
 With each burst an
 Awakening
 And a dying
 Aimless bubbles
 Floating
 Make a crest
 Will a crest
 Mount it as you may
 The rest will float away . . .



Tanya Brass

So what is in a name
 The co-ordinates to plot your destiny
 The seed that precedes the fruit

The gift your ancestors present
 The expectations to aspire

The expectations to expire

Within the whirlpool of life
 Held in the bounds of consciousness
 Yours to behold

Brought forth to cherish, to unfold

Through the passage of the past
 To the future of the present
 Until the alpha and omega unite.

Astrid
 6.9.83

NED KELLY CROSSES THE FLOOR

Who sets the sun, dearest Ned?
 The squatters, the malingers
 Driving our turgid souls westward?
 The mask is thread, another field sown
 Let this reckless enigma spit on our throne!

'Speaker of the House,
 Need I listen on?
 The question is painted so proudly obtuse,
 And your beast's liver is like a serpent's tongue
 Fearfully caressing an evening's tucker
 Like Lucifer cringing at the sight of his lamb,
 I a child & thou a lamb,
 We are called by his name,
 And crying by the hearth
 Frightened to touch his damper!'

Silence shrieks in empty abandon.
 Every babe in the wood,
 Plucked as a chicken.
 'At Stringybark Creek did we wrestle the rough
 With the gesture of clergymen
 They tightened our cuffs
 And as the stream strengthened from aqua to blood,
 We harnessed the horses in the sinking mud.
 And kneeling down to drink like Goths,
 They dipped their bloody heads in the trough!

'But let me not distract you,
 Though I could only succeed
 In keeping the chamber alive.
 With your boot heels fastened to your breast pockets,
 Is there any rhapsody
 This meekness could revive?

'I care not for your principles,
 For only through wanton stealth,
 Not kingly gestures, is courage borne.
 You wander with your words
 While every pedigree cries
 When the villain is too slain to bow.
 Like admiring angels you ask in a whisper,
 What immortal hand or eye,
 Could frame thy fearful symmetry?
 The restless spirit is in us all;
 And every guilty shadow
 is but a party to our call'

Maurice Collin

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

The sickle swished and tall swathes fell in the corn;
 Old Abraham worked on into the day
 Watching the light ripple over the shorn
 Acres of gold; when somewhere, far away,
 He heard a voice — rhythmic and heavy with sun
 Speak out its power until the tall sky reeled —
 The minutes of all time were pressed in one;
 The whole world stood together in his field.

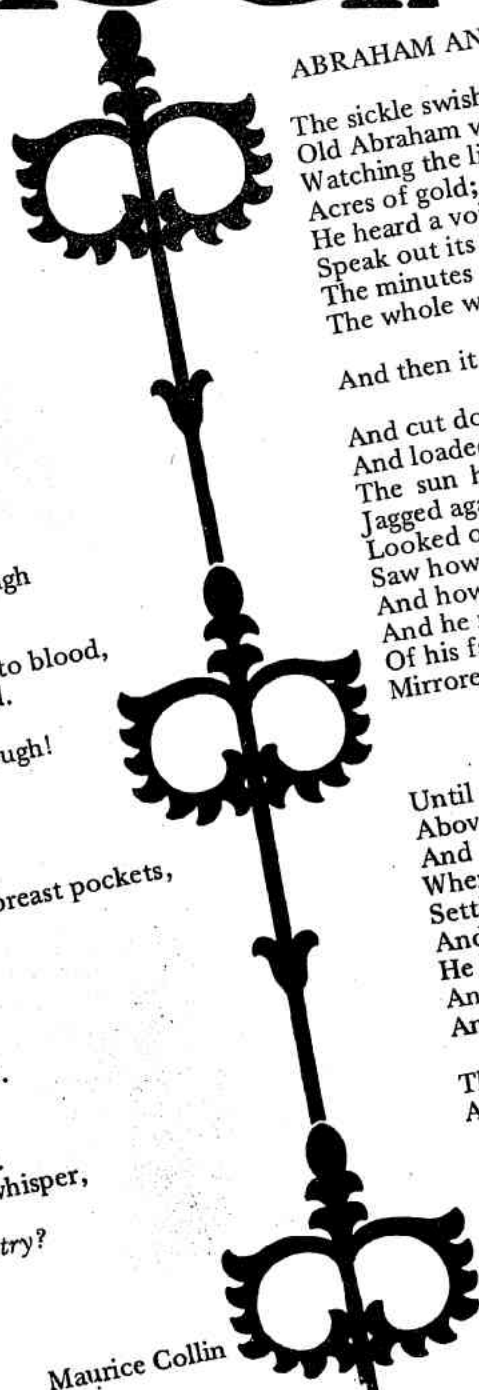
And then it stopped.

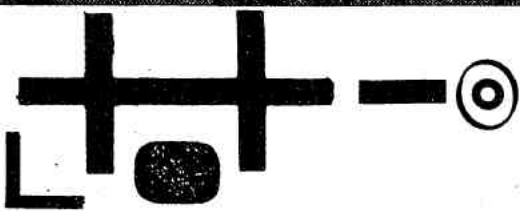
Abraham awoke
 And cut down wood and called his son and slaves
 And loaded up his mule. When morning broke
 The sun hacked out the men and the beast with the staves
 Jagged against the sky. But Abraham
 Looked only to the mountains. Yet the boy
 Saw how the colours of the morning swam
 And how the birds wheeled and were one with joy
 And he ran ahead to watch them until the gaze
 Of his father caught him and he saw the stone.
 Mirrored on stone.

They walked on through the haze
 Above the hill the voice had spoken of.
 And Abraham took Isaac to the place
 Where he built an altar near a thorny grove,
 Setting the timber at the altar's base.
 And binding Isaac to the rack of wood,
 He looked up at the sky, the plain, the rock
 And he heard the voice and he knew the voice was good
 And he took his knife and opened Isaac's neck.

Then Abraham waited but the voice was gone.
 And Isaac's blood dripped on into the sun.

Robert Carver





REVIEW

"That's The Way I Feel Now" (A Tribute to Thelanius Monk on A & M Records thru Festival.

... This is, of course, a tribute to Thelanius Monk by a most interesting collection of various (varied) music personalities, who've recorded their interpretations of Monk's more well-known works. The extensive list tells of the remarkable diversity of styles that have been a(e)ffected in one way or another by the consummate genius that was Monk - Carla Bley, Steve Khan, Dr John, Sharon Freeman and Steve Lacy. Perhaps what is more of interest is the sole soul and spirit that have moved those considered part of the non-"jazz" alumni; names like Joe Jackson, Donald Fagen, NRBO, Shockabilly, and Was (Not Was), to name but a coterie.

And just WHO was Thelanius Sphere Monk? HE was one of the most influential and innovative exponents of modern jazz. From the after-hours clubs of New York's Harlem, where he met and became close compatriots with Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie in the early '40s, to the classic residency with a still-maturing John Coltrane at the Five Spot in '57, Monk soon became the one to alter the language of contemporary jazz along with another well-known junior, Miles Davis. He played a crucial role in the nurturing of the music of John Coltrane, Bud Powell and Cecil Taylor, among others. It was he who was at the forefront of the post-Bebop transitional phase, exploring the new frontiers while drawing from the pasts of Parker, Lucky Millinder, and Coleman Hawkins. Comparisons have been drawn around his Bebop-based style of melodic improvisation, that have made him as accessible as the popular Fats Waller and legendary Earl Hines.

Who can forget the exquisite classic, "Round Midnight", a popular Miles/Coltrane rendition of it from '55 that's still an example today? ... Or the intimacy of a heartfelt "Ruby, My Dear" so well done with Coltrane at the Five Spot? Or the melodies and harmonies that were as jagged as shards of bitter-sweet shrapnel slicingly pungent, in "Four in One", idiosyncratic in "Thelanius" and diabolically alluring with "Played Twice"? And the countless versions by others of his more popular "Epistrophy", "Straight, No Chaser" and "Bemsha Swing" - all incorporating Monk's unique angularity and excitement of juggled rhythms and procedures.

This double-set isn't exactly the latest thing out (it was rush-released last year for the Xmas shoppers) but I think there is a quality that is rather endearing on this that deserves another (this) mention; if nothing else, it could at least spark some interest in those yet to be accustomed to the magic of that was, and is, Thelanius Monk. As Monk once remarked, 'Jazz' is about FREEDOM. ... Hop on for the trip of your life!!

■ KeanW



Parker & Coltrane ... jam it up...

"The Poet II" BOBBY WOMACK Motown Records

■ KeanW

When a legend like Bobby Womack has been in the business for over 20 years, you can bet there is a lot to rediscover. He is probably the only major figure left from the epochal '60s soul boom that has come to influence so much of today's contemporary acts. To start from the beginning ... He was born in Cleveland Ohio, US of A, and from an early age, was exposed to gospel music in church, but this was like no other as it was THE Sam Cooke, and Archie Brownlee of the Five Blind Boys who influenced Bobby's eventual vocal style.

He left home at 13 to play guitar for the Five Blind Boys, and in his later teens formed, with his brothers, The Womack Brothers; they were to eventually become the Valentinos of such classics as "Lookin' For a Love" and "It's All Over Now" (a great version by Ry Cooder came out in '74). They signed on with Sam Cooke's Sar label in '62 which further cemented Bobby's ties with Sam, and he was Sam's touring guitarist right up to Sam's death in '64. The next year saw him married to Sam's wife and attached to a new label, Chess; he continued his short stints at record labels when he moved over to another major one of the '60s, Atlantic. It resulted in a flop single and Minit Records soon followed; this resulted in two Minit LPs of classic Womack. It was also around this that saw much of his other material used by another legend, Wilson Pickett, and the rise of the Stax Records sound.

Bobby's first two albums for United Artists involved the notorious Sly Stone; "Communication" and "Understandings" from the turn of the decade came out in a period of marital breakup and drug abuse. Six albums followed, with his classic style evident in this time up to '76; these included the brilliant "Facts of Life" ('73), "Looking for a Love" ('74) and "Don't Know What the World is Coming To" ('75). Two other albums of interest were '76's "Safety Zone" and also from the same year, "B.W. Goes Country & Western", which were his last for the label. The compelling first release on Columbia was "Home Is Where The Heart Is" from '76. His second ... for Columbia was also his last; he seemed by that time to have lost his magic. The years that followed, until his acclaimed comeback with '81's "The Poet", were times spent in bouts of drug abuse. Another hitch in his long career surfaced when he received no royalties for "The Poet" which was on the Beverley Glen label; a complex law suit followed against the label. It was only last year that Bobby's legal problems were resolved, and the release of this album, "The Poet II" on Motown soon followed. This album sees the return of a consummate artist, back in fine style; the rather treacherous taste of the cover notwithstanding.

The opening track "Love Has Finally Come At Last" must be THE love duet of today, in contrast to the countless other stabs portraying the emotional security of luurve; this one revives and revitalises that unique wafting headiness of mad infatuation with its resplendent immediacy of cascading emotions. The smoother-than-silk edge shreds its seamless joins as Bobby and Patti La Belle

forge through with a pristinely vitreous phalanx of pure SOUL. It shares with Marvin Gaye's classic with Tammi Terell, "How Sweet It Is", the special simplicity of root emotion from which all love-action originates. Pixilated rapture and rapacious desire magically fuse to result in what must be the love song to beat for sheer potency in delivery. You can forget all those Julio/Ross couplings, for this outstrips all with a lot more than just an insipid grab at the heartstrings; this MOVES!

I still haven't quite gotten over what must be the song that shrouds the key of life; "It Takes a Lot of Strength to Say Goodbye" seems so perfect, capturing within its amorphous grasp every other shade of joy and depression.

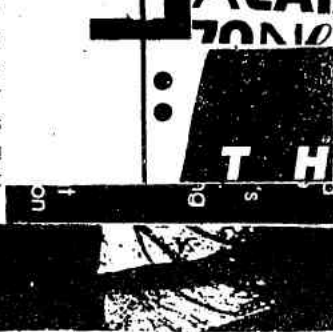
"You say you don't want me,
and then apologise,
'cause you know your love will
haunt me,
I hope I'm acting wisely,
I'm walking in the rain,
Looking for the strength to say
goodbye ..."

sings Patti in response to Bobby; the way that phrase is just SUNG, where that twist, this inflection in voice sheds no light, just a complexity of pain and anguish laced with latent ecstasy and joy of relief. You feel it, you are far removed into their passionate vignette, you feel sad, numbed to sensation and thrilled all at once. After "Love ... " and "... Say Goodbye"; the PASSION becomes all-consuming, it is indescribable, as one is swept away in its mighty wake; to grovel is sacrilege. Then there is the rest of the album to contend with, an ultimately titanic sweep of the soul.

"Tryin' To Get Over You" breaks out and up to life the listener in its short moments of swinging happiness and contentment that is reminiscent of 1976 and Van McCoy, Gloria Gaynor, et. al.. The swooning strings and rippling pace of this song along with two preceding mid-tempo percolations, give the album a little humourous breathing space before these give way to the next track; as it pulses away, it throws and throbs off chunks of that wiiiild energy; Hi-NRG indeed! The straight-ahead, guts-driven funk of "Tell Me Why" teases and cajoles, shimmers and shoves. And that undertow, that BOTTOM end, the thudding of insistent bass-travel ... one can almost picture the wry grin of the Funkman, that blue rouse, as he fades into the distance, "... breaking my heart, my heart" ... Dance Song? No, not quite; it is much more than that, adrenalin and sexuality never quite surged so apparent, so FORWARD, as on this bopping jewel of per(af)fection.

As you catch your breath, the high-steppin', hard-stomping "Who's Foolin' Who" raises doubts as to the supremacy of James Brown in getting DOWN; Bobby points the finger, you jump to the point. DMX drum machines never sounded so good, his burnt-out screams jivin' and jousting over the top, sounding real BAAAD as the consuming beat pumps on.

Featuring
Patti LaBelle





The album draws to a close with two compelling ballads of rather functional elegance when compared to the precedent; still, "I Wish I... Had Someone to go Home To" reaches those glorious extremes of depth and highs. As that same passion pervades its bitter-sweet verses, a tear is wrung from this mortal soul. "American Dream", with its use of excerpts from Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech of 1963, echoes the return of growing disparity and poverty among the minorities in Reagan's America; a call to strive for a Dream where the emancipation of the disadvantaged is a right, not a political tool and whim, where welfare programs don't suffer in preference to the funding of Reagan's imperialism; something to remind the Young (materialistic conservatives) that there is more to life than the Rule(s) of Success; conscience being dispensable along with literacy and downward mobility.

"The Poet II" continues the tradition of the fiery commitment of spirit found in Marvin's earlier "What's Going On" Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run" and Linton Kwesi Johnson's "Making History" from last year, to name but a rare few. Mix that in with the immaculate production, inspired musicians and Patti LaBelle to find Bobby Womack in magical form. As Stevie Wonder lapses into MOR(e) ear-aches, and with Marvin and Jackie Wilson having taken untimely exits, *this* is the last Grandmaster of Soul. Great!



MARCUS SAY...

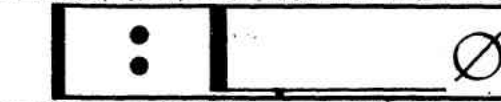
Dear reader, several things have come to pass since the first Undercurrent of 1985. I have very little time to devote this year and a musical compatriot, Kean, will be contributing on alternate weeks. The ever indulgent title Undercurrent has been axed, and we'll just be writing Review; in fact that is what it shall be called. Until when next we fail to meet....

Marcus Kelson

"Yeah?!" (KeanW)



CREATIVITY FROM A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE



folk club..

John Taylor

Have you an interest in listening to, or a desire to play, Folk music, but just can't locate more like-minded people? If so, then the ANU Folk Club will probably be able to help. The Folk Club is a gathering of people who meet on various week nights (they have not yet been finalized) to have a bit of a song, dance or tune and perhaps a drink or two. The emphasis is *not* on how crash-hot a certain person is but on having a great time and mixing with a wide variety of singers, dancers, musicians and even jugglers.

I suppose the term 'Folk' might appear to be somewhat misleading, comprising different images to different people. In the ANU Folk Club there is basically an enormous range i.e. Bluegrass, Bush, Irish, English, Scottish, Country and European (such as Yugoslavian, etc.) We have also had a terrific time mucking around with Blues, Jazz, Ragtime, primal rock etc. etc. Really, to quote Pete Seeger, "Folk music is music played by Folk, any sort of Folk."

It was mentioned before that the times had not yet been finalised for the club to meet. There is talk of having meetings on a Tuesday night whilst some favour a Friday. I suggest that you stay tuned and check out any of the Union noticeboards to find one of our posters advertising the next meeting. As for a venue the most likely is in Knotholes Bar in the area that can be closed off, or failing that, the Mathematics Departmental Centre in the Hanna Neumann Building - as with the time, well, stay tuned.

I can honestly assure you that the Folk Club is one hell of a good time for any person that chooses to front up and either listen or contribute. From time to time, I might add, the president elect, Mr John Quiggin does arrange for a guest personality to demonstrate his/her talents. On the topic of Mr Quiggin I also believe that he is organising a Folk Festival in Canberra come Easter: Don't miss it.

If you require any further details of the Folk Club then give John Quiggin a call on either X 2635 (within the Uni internal phone network) or on 415 797 (ah).

Quadrant

"Long may radicals of the right bash, baffle and bewilder the poor old pinko conservatives"

- Barry Humphries

Take advantage of the Special Student Rate of \$24 per year. You SAVE \$15.50 per year (on single copy sales).

SUBSCRIBE NOW

Quadrant, Box C344
Clarence St. P.O., Sydney 2000

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

I AM A STUDENT OF


I.D. No.

Please charge my Bankcard Visa

American Express Diners Club


Signature

Rates valid in Australia only



THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

YOUR FUTURE AS A DIPLOMAT.



If you are a graduate or will complete a degree this year, have an interest in international affairs, and wish to play an active role in promoting Australia's interests overseas, have you thought about a career as an Australian Diplomat?

Applications for entry to the Australian diplomatic service at Foreign Affairs Trainee level in 1986 close on 30 April this year. Details and application forms are available from Department of Foreign Affairs Offices and Regional Offices of the Public Service Board in State capitals and from:

**The Recruitment Officer,
Diplomatic Staff,
Department of Foreign Affairs,
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600**

discount photo lab

20c per print*

*plus developing charge

WHEN YOU LEAVE TWO OR MORE 135, 126, 110, C41 FILMS FOR OUR EXPERT PROCESSING & PRINTING

fast 2 Hour E-6 Slide Service

PAY ONLY FOR GOOD RESULTS
- no upfront flat rates!



CAPITAL COLOR

FILM LABORATORY

FAST ENLARGEMENTS

NORTHBOURNE AVE.
CANBERRA CITY,
(Near Cowen's Newsagency)
Tel. 474030

★ discount photo lab ★ discount

NEK
378.947
WOR

ARE YOU A SUCKER?

*THIS SHORT SIMPLE TEST
WILL HELP YOU FIND OUT*



ANSWER YES OR NO ;

- Do you think work makes you free?
- Do you think Coco-Cola, videogames, and the private automobile represent the good life?
- Do you think any free societies exist today?
- Do you think Jesus moved that rock all by himself?
- Do you think the police are there to protect your rights?
- Do you think the ALP is less likely to start a war?
- Do you think the Soviet Union is communist?
- Do you think there is room for you at the top?
- Do you think capitalism is compatible with a humane society?

If you answered yes to any of the above, then yes, you are a sucker. But don't blame yourself — this society produces suckers because this society NEEDS suckers. Besides, it's never too late to start thinking and acting for yourself.